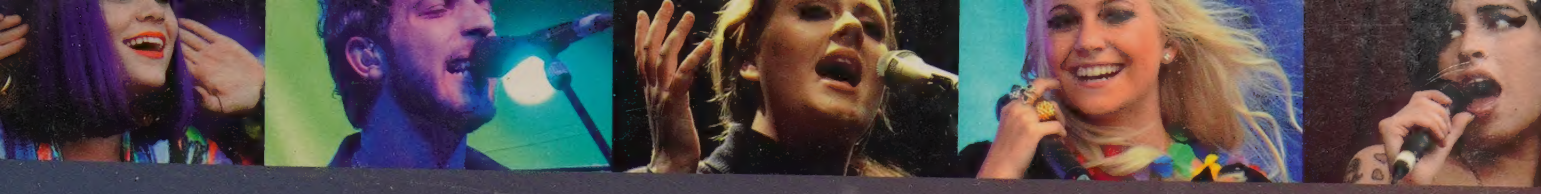

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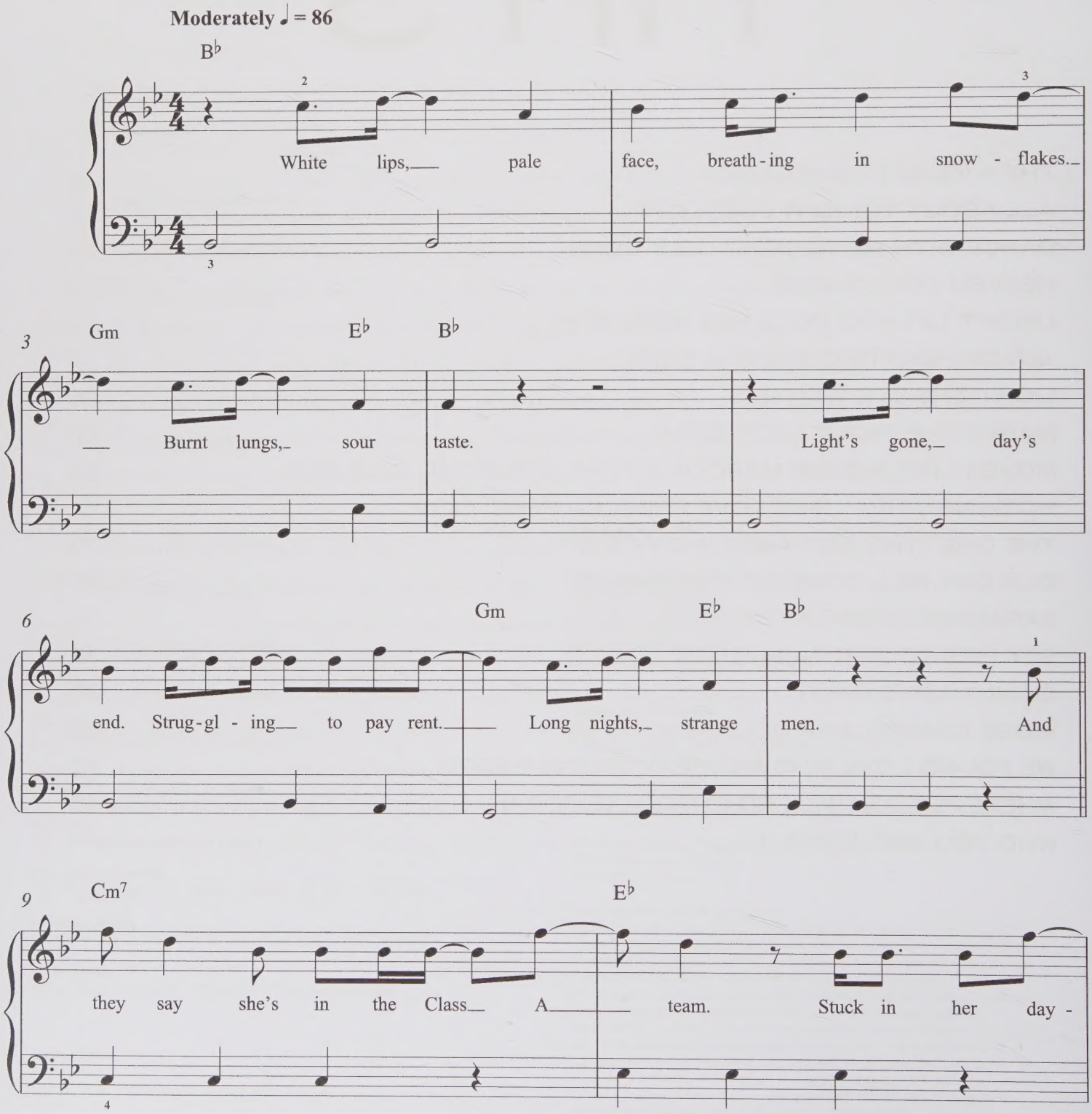
The A Team

Words & Music by Ed Sheeran

After meeting a girl called Angel when he played a Christmas gig for the homeless charity Crisis, singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran was inspired to write this song, based on her story. Released as the lead single from his first album, it entered the charts at No. 3, becoming the highest-selling debut UK single in the first half of 2011.

Hints & Tips: The rhythm of the melody is quite tricky in places. Play through the right hand a few times before putting it together with the left, making sure you're confident with the timing.



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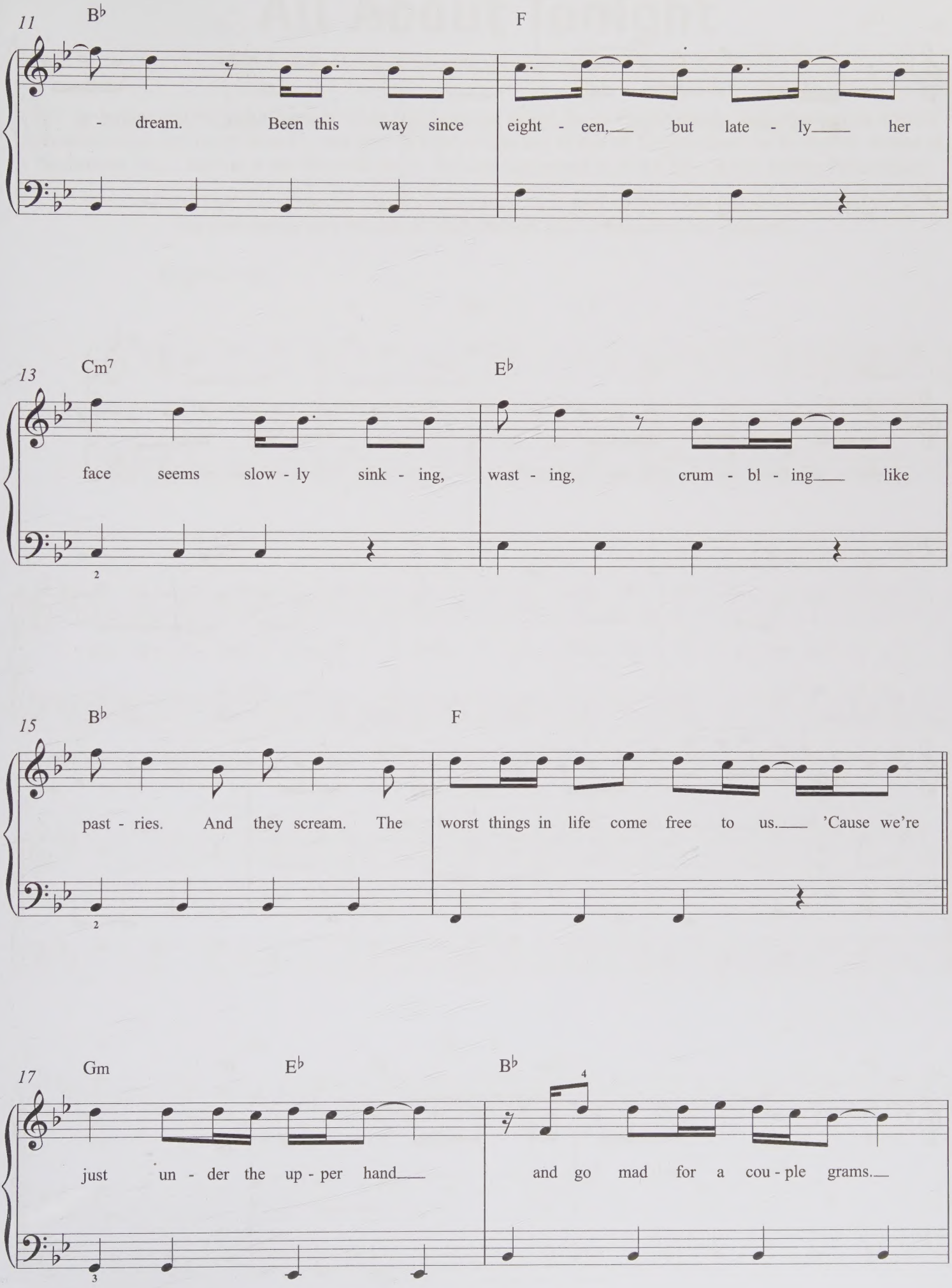
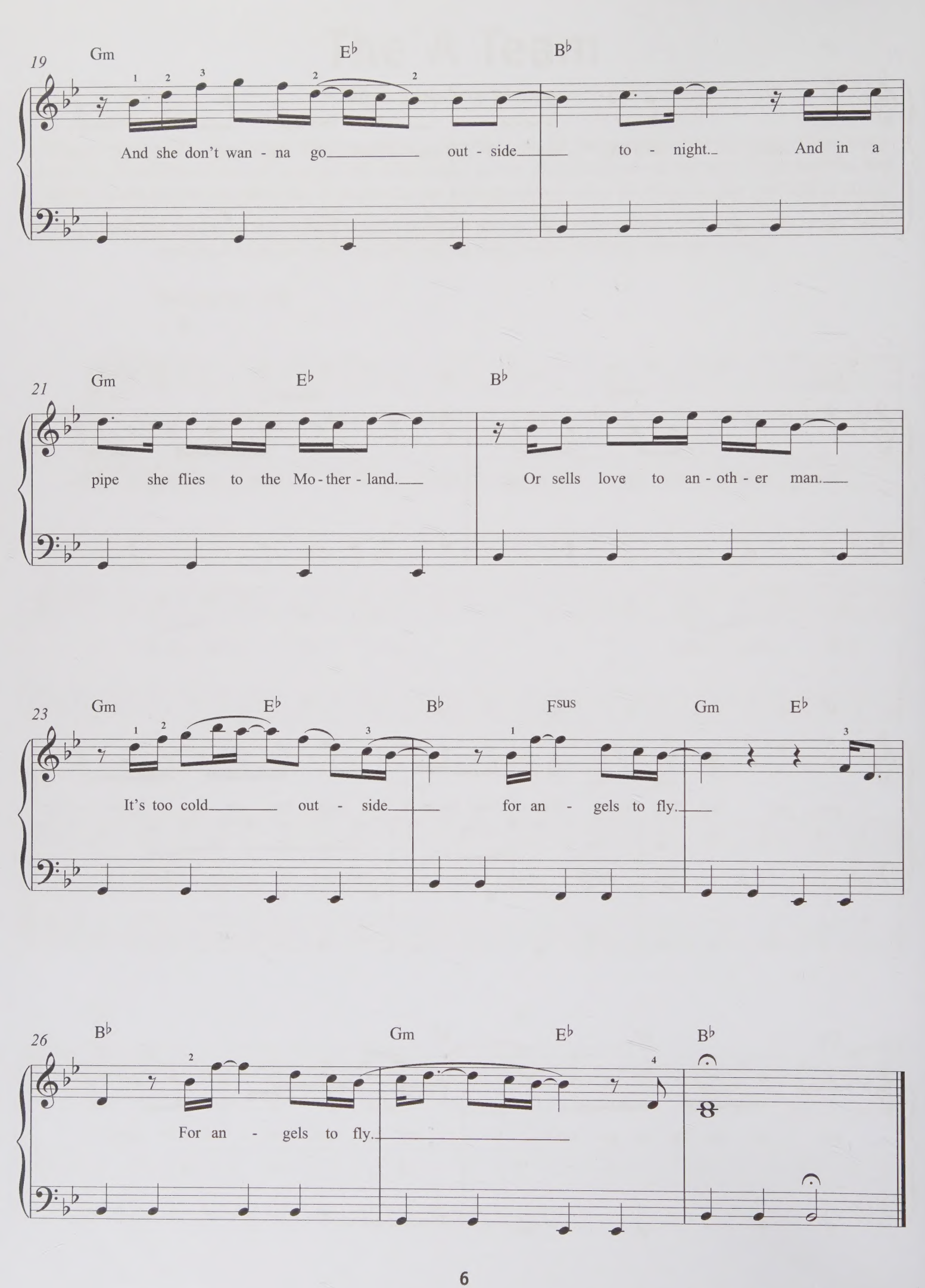

11
B♭
F
- dream. Been this way since eight - een, but late - ly her
13
Cm7
E♭
face seems slow - ly sink - ing, wast - ing, crum - bl - ing like
15
B♭
F
past - ries. And they scream. The worst things in life come free to us. 'Cause we're
17
Gm
E♭
B♭
just un - der the up - per hand and go mad for a cou - ple grams.

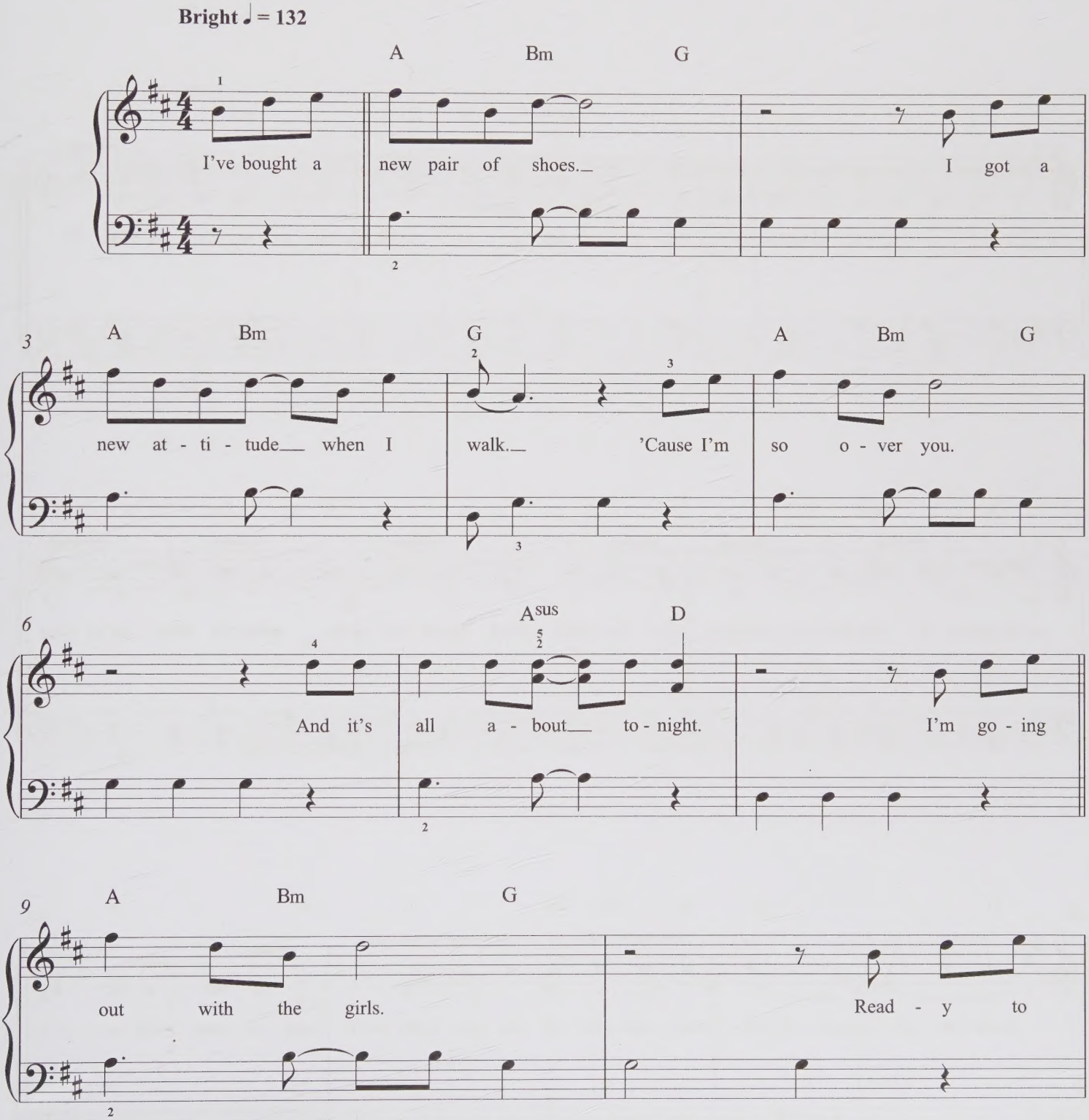

19
Gm
E♭
B♭
And she don't wan - na go out - side to - night. And in a
21
Gm
E♭
B♭
pipe she flies to the Mo - ther - land. Or sells love to an - oth - er man.
23
Gm
E♭
B♭
Fsus
Gm
E♭
It's too cold out - side for an - gels to fly.
26
B♭
Gm
E♭
B♭
For an - gels to fly.

All About Tonight

Words & Music by Brian Kidd, Thomas James & Tebey Ottoh

This up-tempo pop song, included on Pixie Lott's second album *Young Foolish Happy*, was intended to achieve a breakthrough for her in America, but shot straight to the top of the UK Singles Chart on its digital release in September 2011, making it her third UK No. 1. She also performed it at the 2011 Royal Variety Performance.

Hints & Tips: Keep the repeated quavers in the right hand melody (from bar 24) steady and even; try alternating your fingers on each note to stop it sounding too sluggish.



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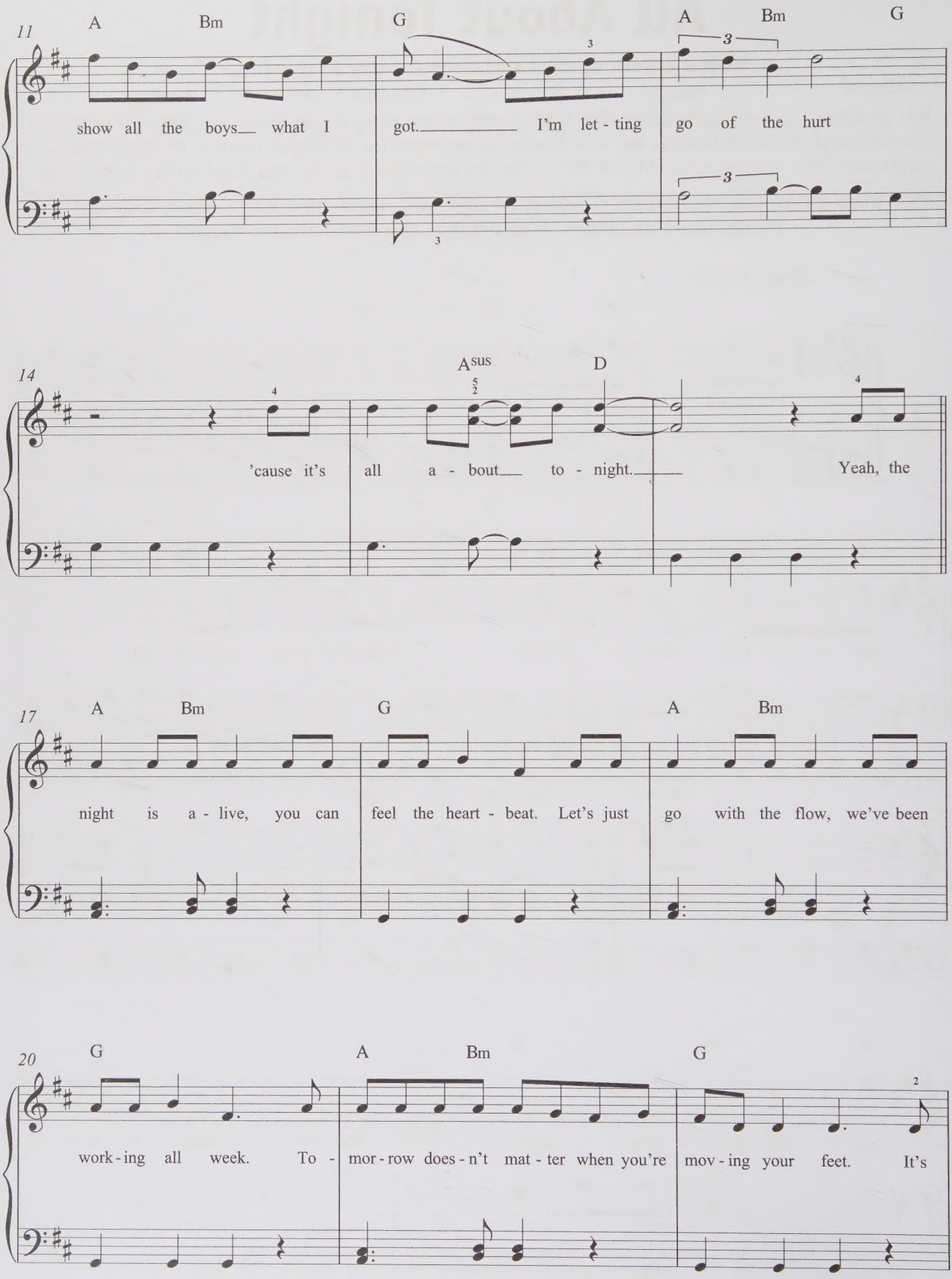
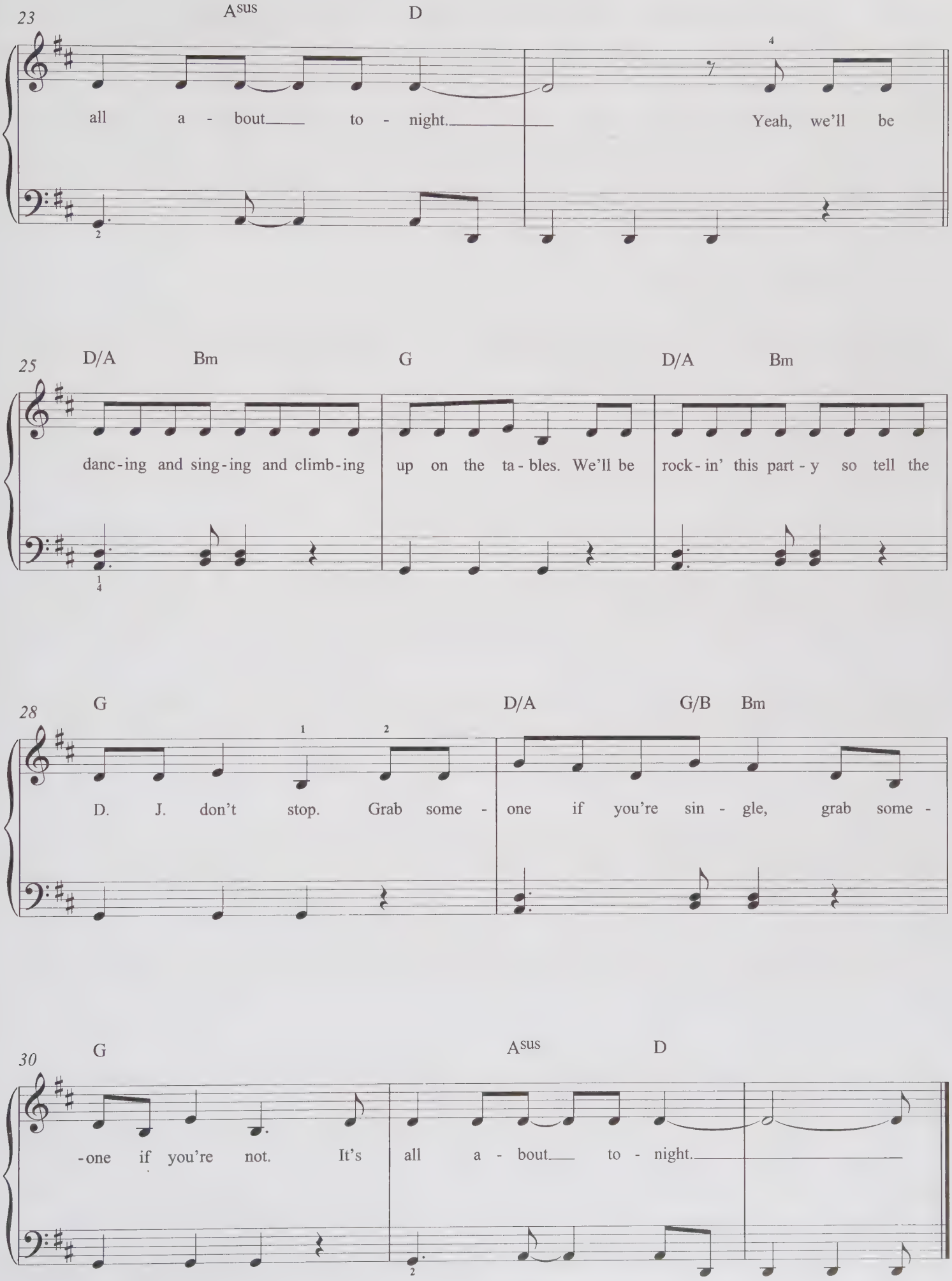

11
A Bm G A Bm G
show all the boys what I got. I'm let - ting go of the hurt
14
Asus D
'cause it's all a - bout to - night. Yeah, the
17
A Bm G A Bm
night is a - live, you can feel the heart - beat. Let's just go with the flow, we've been
20
G A Bm G
work - ing all week. To - mor - row does - n't mat - ter when you're mov - ing your feet. It's


23
Asus
D
all a - bout to - night.
Yeah, we'll be
25
D/A
Bm
G
D/A
Bm
danc-ing and sing-ing and climb-ing up on the ta-bles. We'll be rock-in' this part-y so tell the
28
G
D/A
G/B
Bm
D. J. don't stop. Grab some - one if you're sin - gle, grab some -
30
G
Asus
D
-one if you're not. It's all a - bout to - night.

Dance With Me Tonight

Words & Music by Stephen Robson, Claude Kelly & Olly Murs

Reminiscent of the '60s, with its hip-shaking bass line and effervescent horn section, this was the second single to be taken from the former X Factor contestant's second album *In Case You Didn't Know*. After being held up at No. 2 for a couple of weeks, it overtook the programme's 2011 charity release to become his third UK No. 1.

Hints & Tips: In this bouncy, up-beat song, remember to give the quavers that 'swing' feel. In bars 17 and 18, make sure you keep the right hand F held down while you play the notes above.

Moderate beat ♩ = 160 (♫ = ♩ ♪)

D

My name is Ol - ly, nice to meet you, can I tell you ba - by?

3 Bm G

Look a - round, there's a whole lot of pret - ty la - dies. But none like

6 A D

you, you shine so bright, yeah.

9 D

I was won - der - ing if you and me could spend a min - ute

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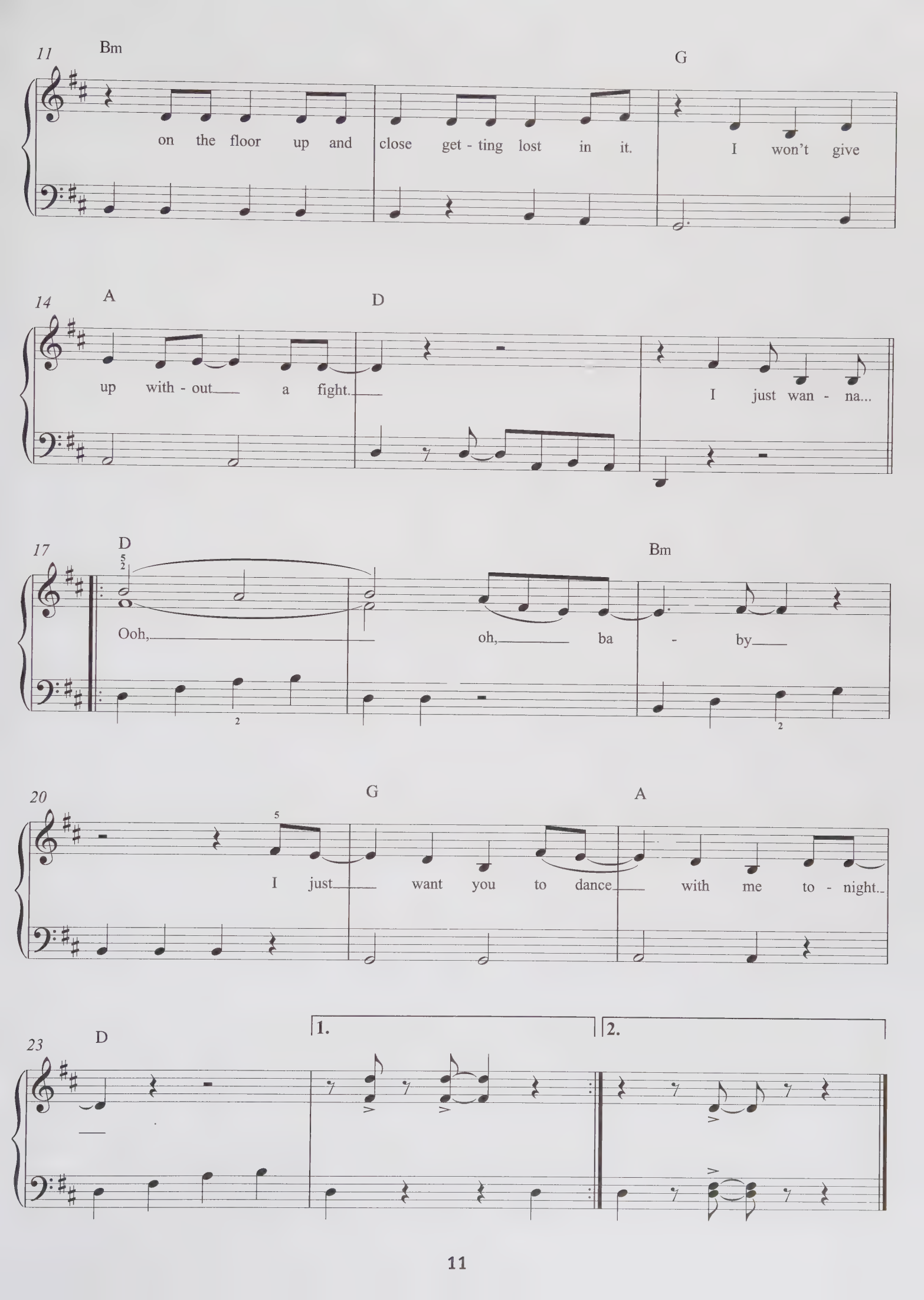
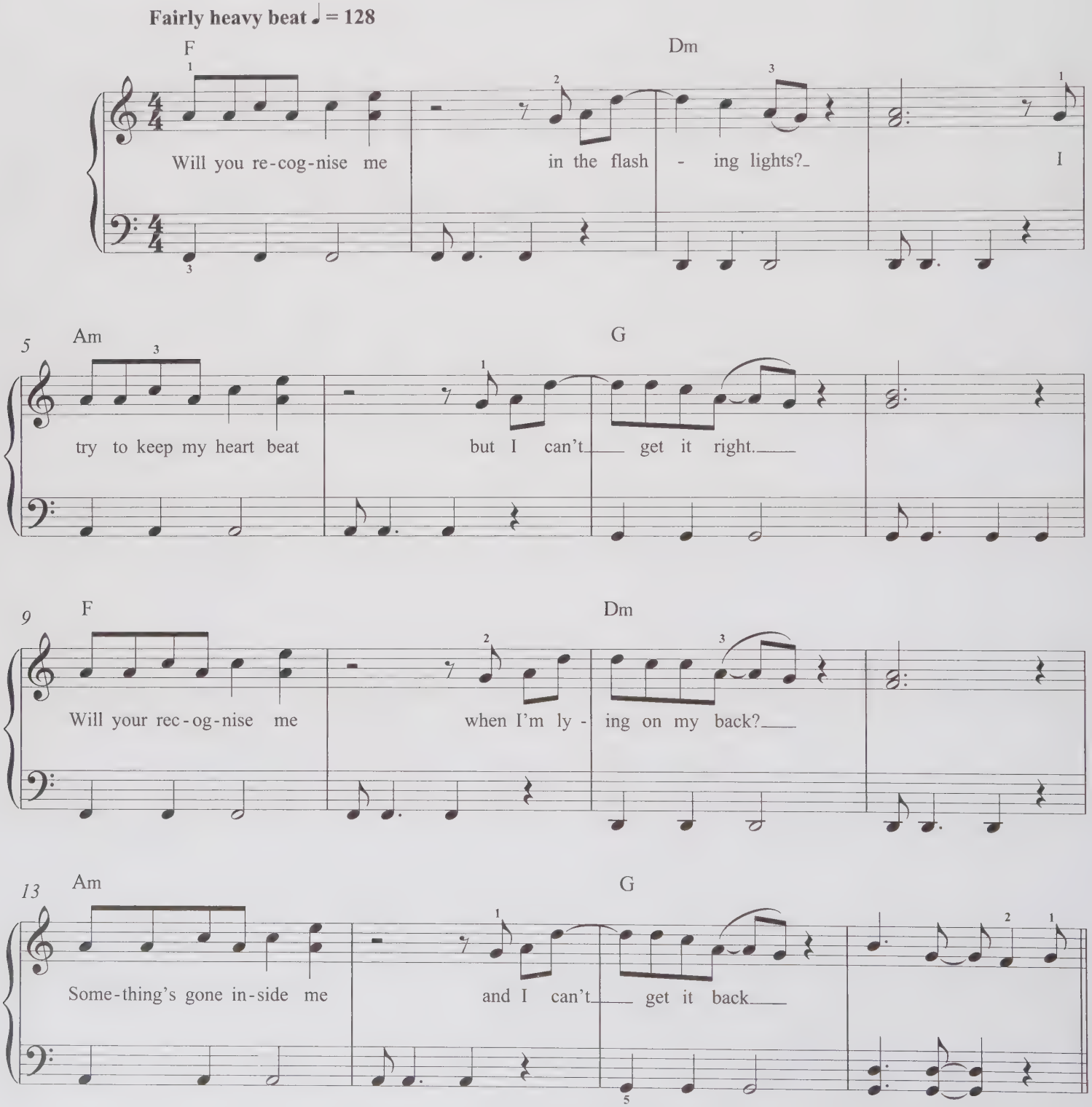

11
Bm
G
on the floor up and close get - ting lost in it. I won't give
14
A
D
up with - out a fight. I just wan - na...
17
D
Bm
Ooh, oh, ba - by
20
G
A
I just want you to dance with me to - night.
23
D
1.
2.

Heaven

Words & Music by Emeli Sandé, Mike Spencer, Harry Craze, Shahid Khan & Hugo Chegwin

Having written and recorded several Top 10 hits with other artists this Scottish soul singer only entered the music business full-time after completing her medical studies at the University of Glasgow. Named as the Brit Awards Critics' Choice for 2012, this song about clubbing was her debut solo single, released in August 2011.

Hints & Tips: Practise each hand separately until you've got the hang of the tricky rhythms before trying them together.



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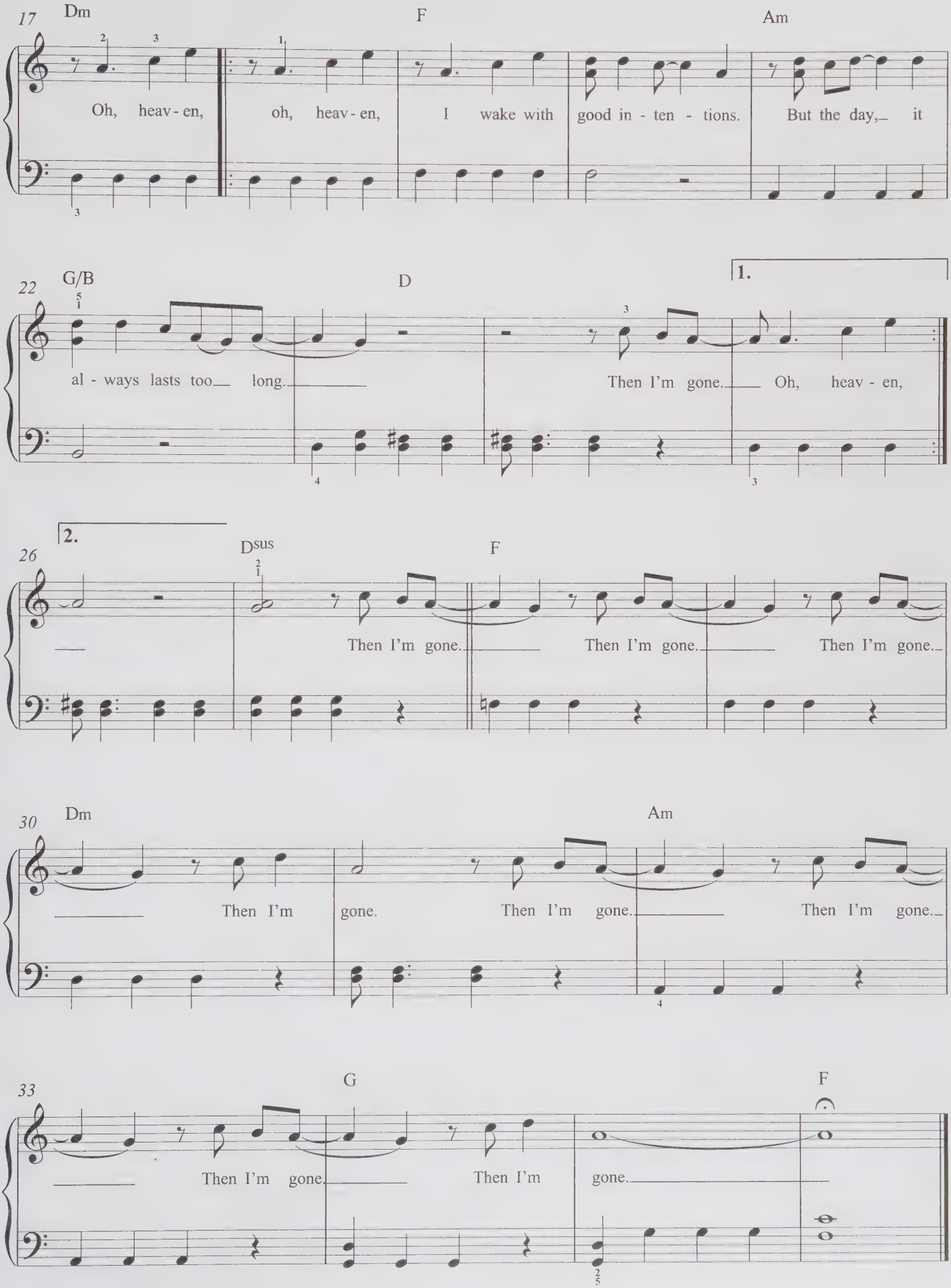
17
Dm
F
Am
Oh, heav - en, oh, heav - en, I wake with good in - ten - tions. But the day, it
22
G/B
D
1.
al - ways lasts too long. Then I'm gone. Oh, heav - en,
26
2.
Dsus
F
Then I'm gone. Then I'm gone. Then I'm gone.
30
Dm
Am
Then I'm gone. Then I'm gone. Then I'm gone.
33
G
F
Then I'm gone. Then I'm gone.

I Won't Let You Go

Words & Music by Martin Brammer, Steve Robson & James Morrison

The first release from Morrison's third album *The Awakening*, this passionate ballad about his long-term girlfriend and mother of his daughter follows the same heartfelt acoustic template as his previous two singles. Debuting at No. 5 in the UK, it was a success throughout Europe.

Hints & Tips: Play this song with feeling, bringing out the melody. When you get to the chorus, try playing it *forte*, but keep the repeated notes (bars 17 and 18) light, otherwise they will sound too heavy.

Moderate ballad tempo

C

When it's black, take a lit - tle time to

3 Am F

hold your - self, take a lit - tle time to feel a - round,

6 C

be - fore it's gone.

9 C Am

You won't let go, but you still keep on fall - ing down.

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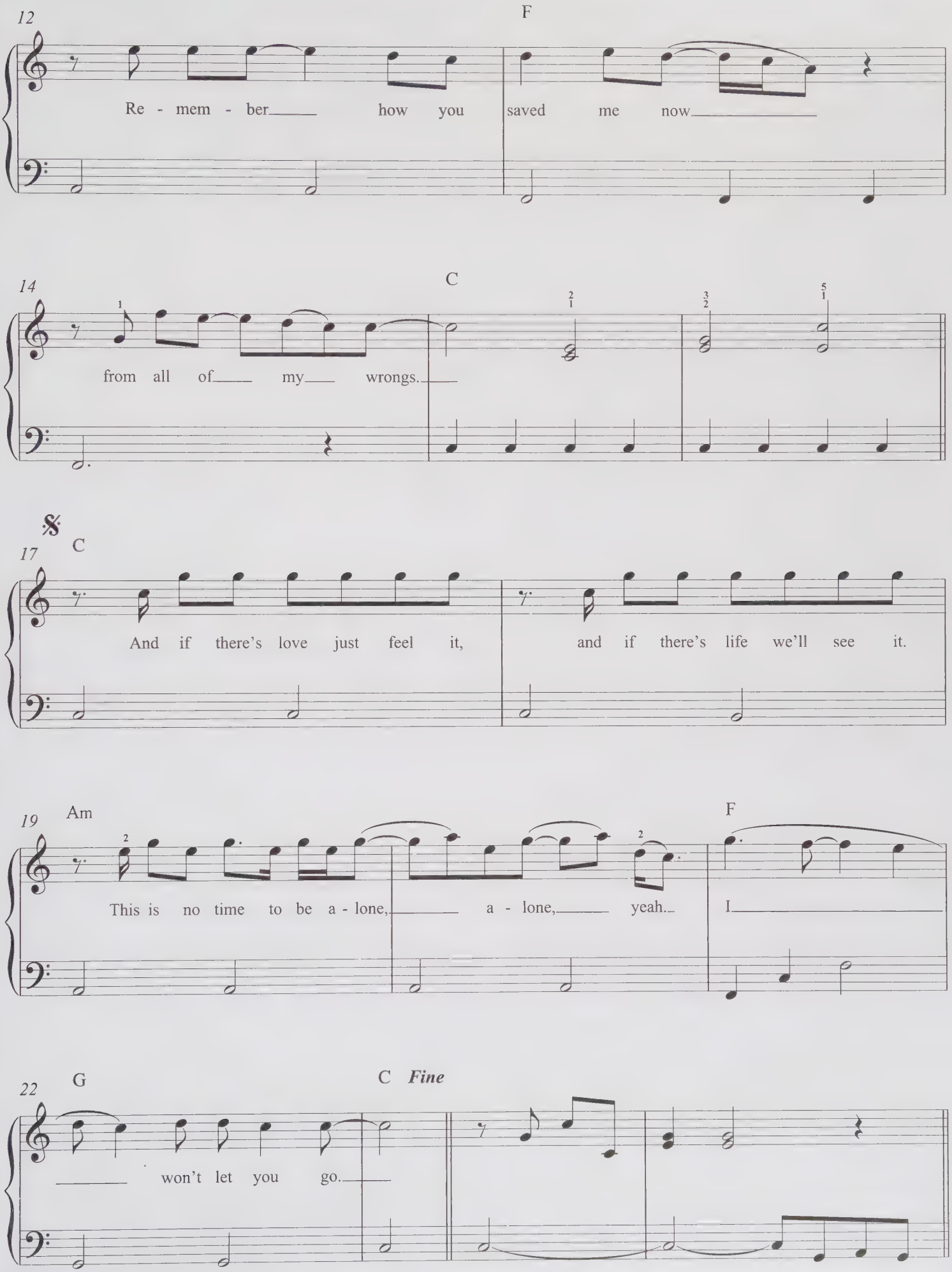
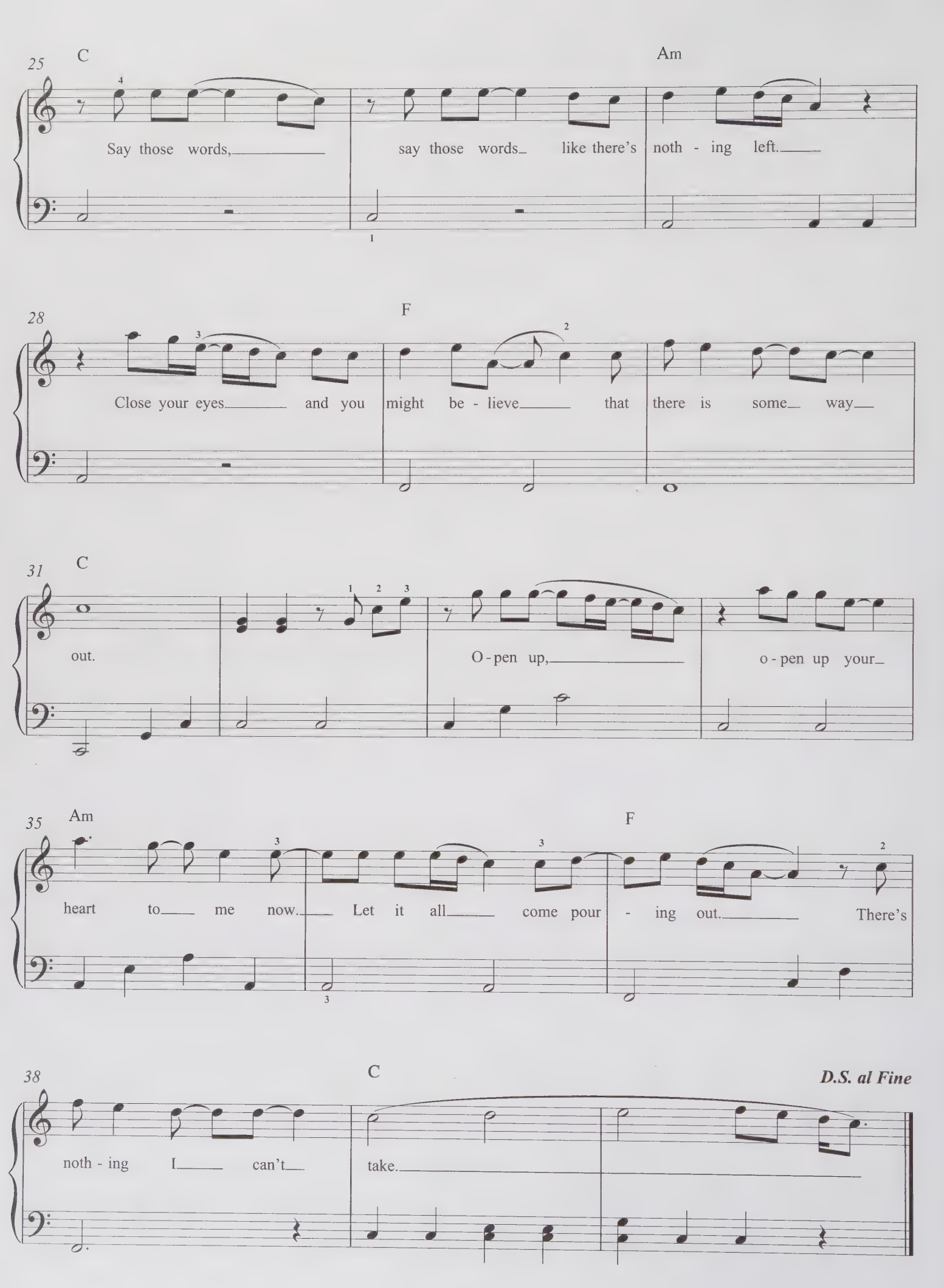

12
F
Re - mem - ber how you saved me now
14
C
from all of my wrongs.
17
C
And if there's love just feel it, and if there's life we'll see it.
19
Am
F
This is no time to be a - lone, a - lone, yeah. I
22
G
C Fine
won't let you go.

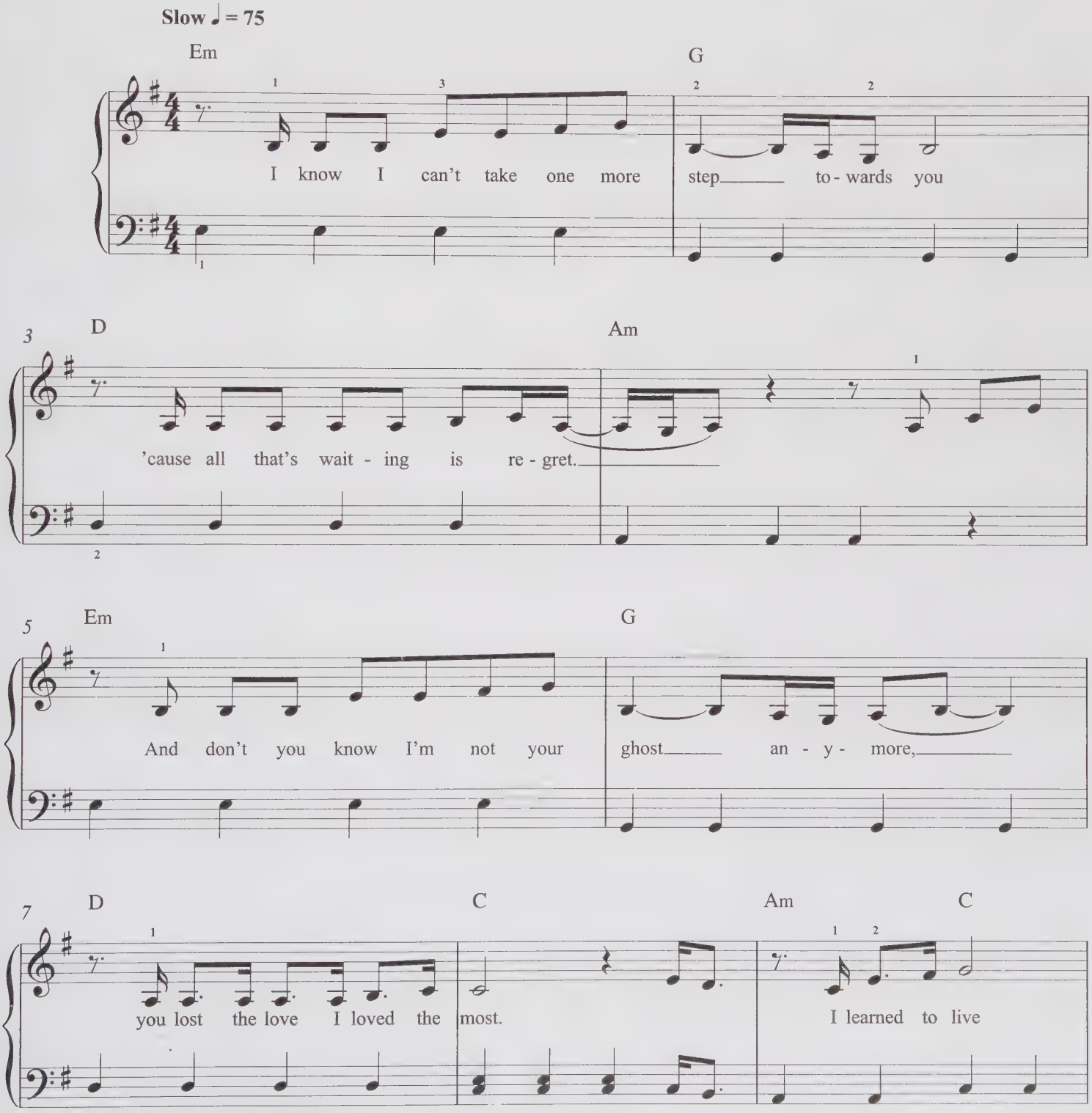

25
C
Am
Say those words,
say those words
like there's
noth - ing left.
28
F
Close your eyes
and you
might be - lieve
that
there is some
way
31
C
out.
O - pen up,
o - pen up your
35
Am
F
heart to
me now.
Let it all
come pour - ing out.
There's
38
C
D.S. al Fine
noth - ing I
can't
take.

Jar Of Hearts

Words & Music by Christina Perri, Drew Lawrence & Barrett Yeretsian

This bittersweet song about a serial heartbreaker that Perri once dated became a hit in the US after it was featured on the TV show So You Think You Can Dance, and then on Glee. It spent 22 weeks in the UK charts, peaking at No. 4, and in November 2011 she performed it on the BBC's Strictly Come Dancing results show.

Hints & Tips: Experiment with dynamics in this song- try playing the opening verse *piano* and the chorus (from bar 13) *forte*. Watch out for accidental passage in the left hand, starting from bar 22.



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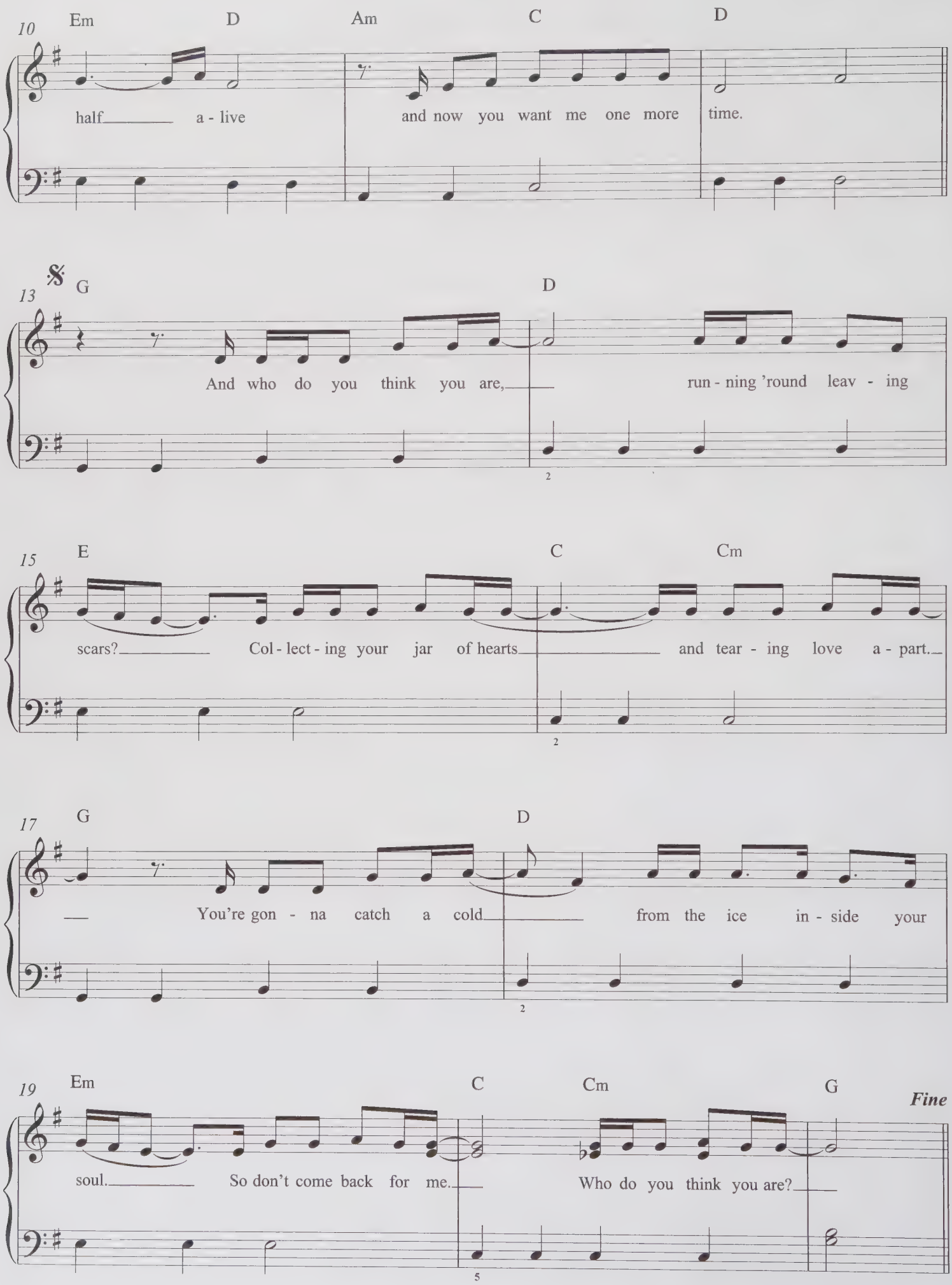
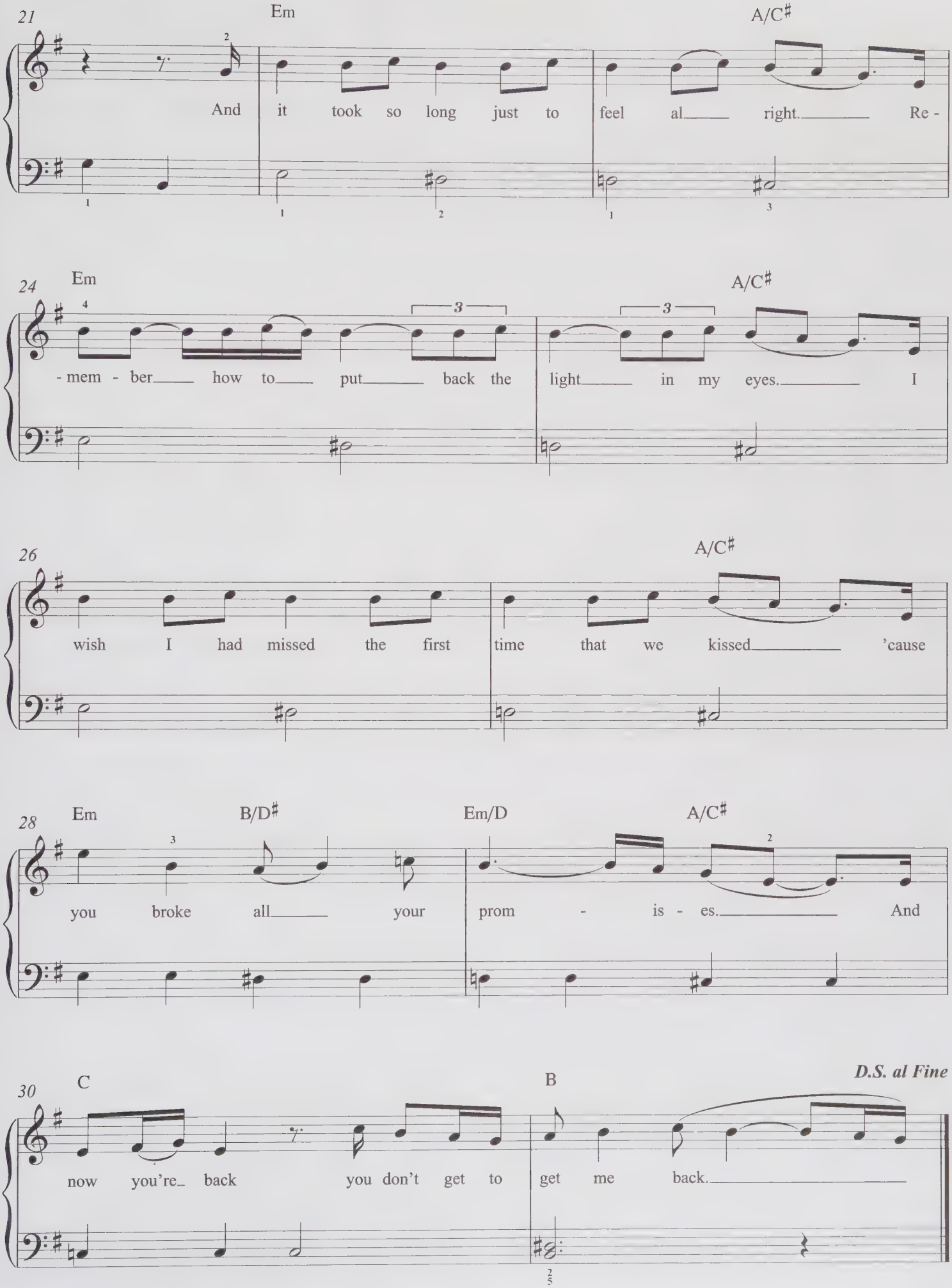

10
Em D Am C D
half a - live and now you want me one more time.
13
G D
And who do you think you are, run - ning 'round leav - ing
15
E C Cm
scars? Col - lect - ing your jar of hearts and tear - ing love a - part.
17
G D
You're gon - na catch a cold from the ice in - side your
19
Em C Cm G
Fine
soul. So don't come back for me. Who do you think you are?

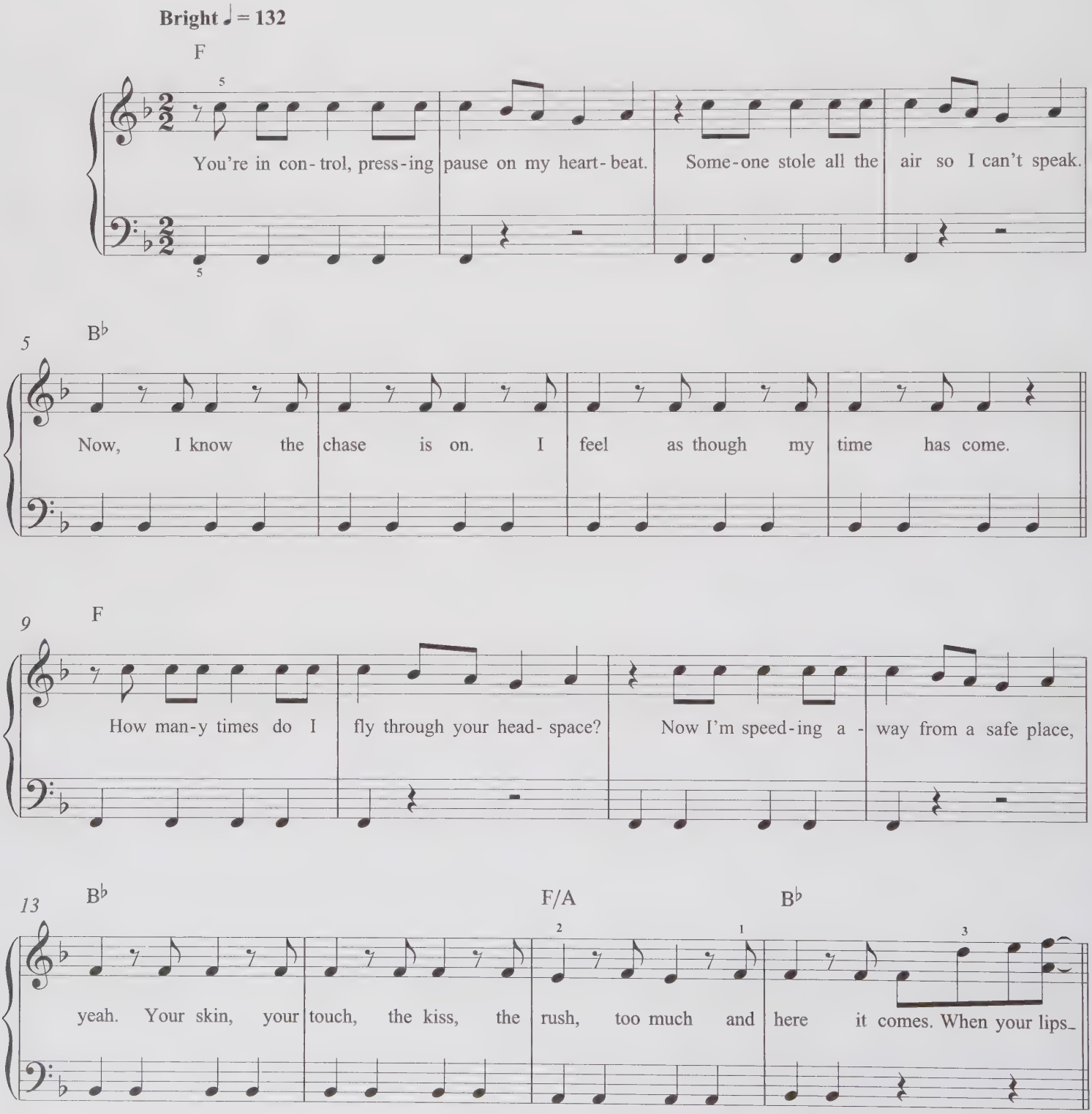

21
Em
A/C♯
And it took so long just to feel al right. Re -
24
Em
A/C♯
- mem - ber how to put back the light in my eyes. I
26
A/C♯
wish I had missed the first time that we kissed 'cause
28
Em
B/D♯
Em/D
A/C♯
you broke all your prom - is - es. And
30
C
B
D.S. al Fine
now you're back you don't get to get me back.

Lightning

Words & Music by Wayne Hector, Steve Mac & Ed Drewett

Formed in 2009 after a mass audition, this British and Irish boy band released their second album *Battleground* in November 2011. This was the third single taken from it and reached No. 2 in the UK charts, Lightning being explained by one band member as a metaphor to describe the nerves and excitement as you kiss someone.

Hints & Tips: Make sure you don't hold the crotchets for too long in bars 5 – 8 and 13 – 16; sometimes the rests are just as important to the sound of a piece as the notes are.



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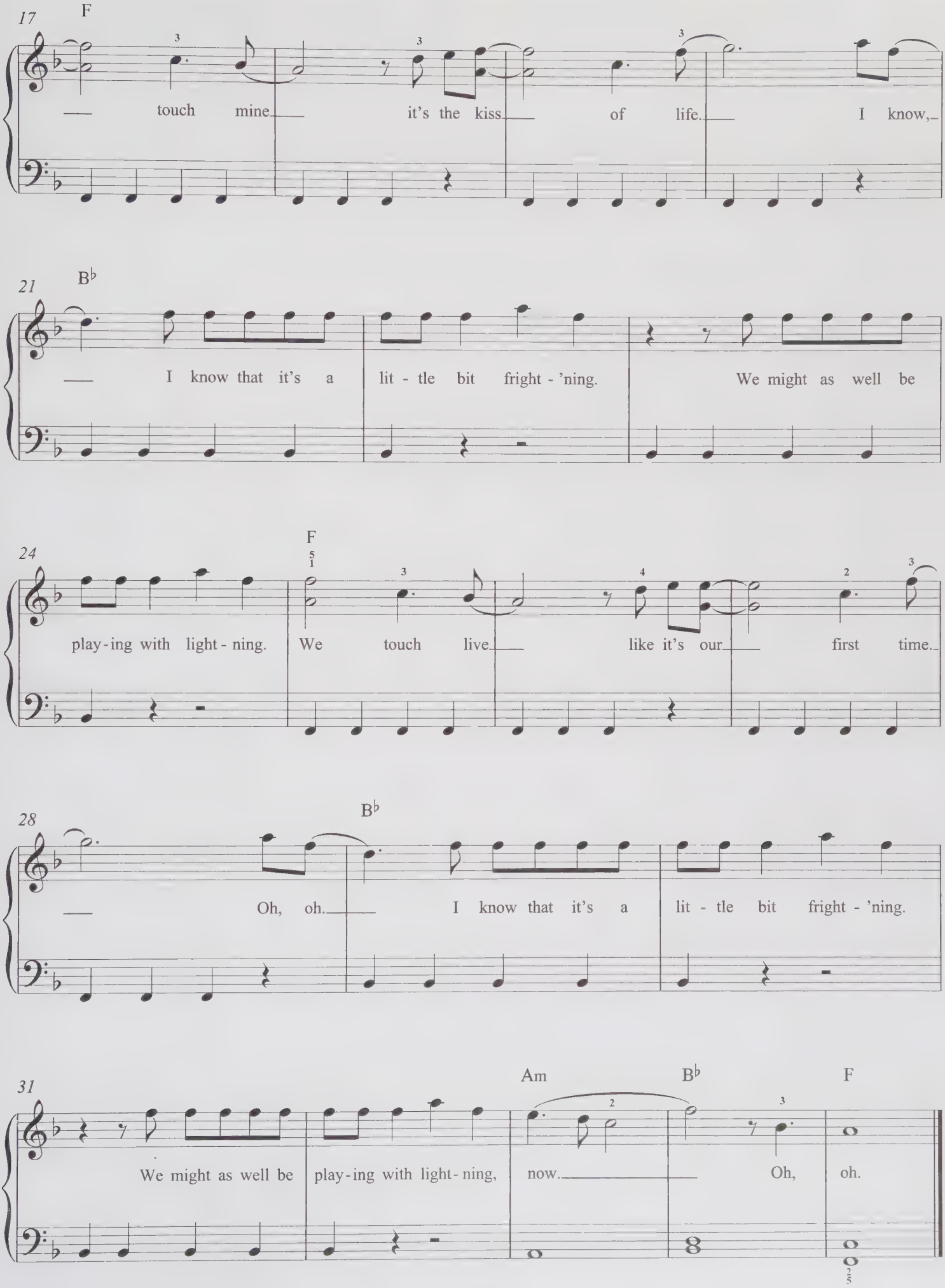
17
F
touch mine it's the kiss of life. I know,
21
B♭
I know that it's a lit - tle bit fright - 'ning. We might as well be
24
F
play-ing with light - ning. We touch live like it's our first time.
28
B♭
Oh, oh. I know that it's a lit - tle bit fright - 'ning.
31
Am
B♭
F
We might as well be play-ing with light-ning, now. Oh, oh.

Nothing's Real But Love

Words & Music by Francis White & Rebecca Ferguson

After a succession of failed auditions and broken dreams this artist came to prominence in the 2010 version of The X Factor, in which she eventually finished as runner-up. This emotional ballad, her debut single, is about the fickle side of fame and how, amidst the obstacles of every day existence, love is the only thing that matters.

Hints & Tips: Practise this carefully, making sure the notes of the chords sound exactly together, especially in bars 23 – 26.

Moderately, gentle swing ♩ = 140

B♭ Cm7 B♭

Stand-ing in a line, won-der why it don't move.

5 Cm7 B♭

Try'n - a get a - head. Watch-ing peo-ple break the rules. And

9 Cm7 Dm7

may-be the man in charge does-n't like my face.

13 Gm E♭

But then this world's not al - ways good and noth-ing's real but

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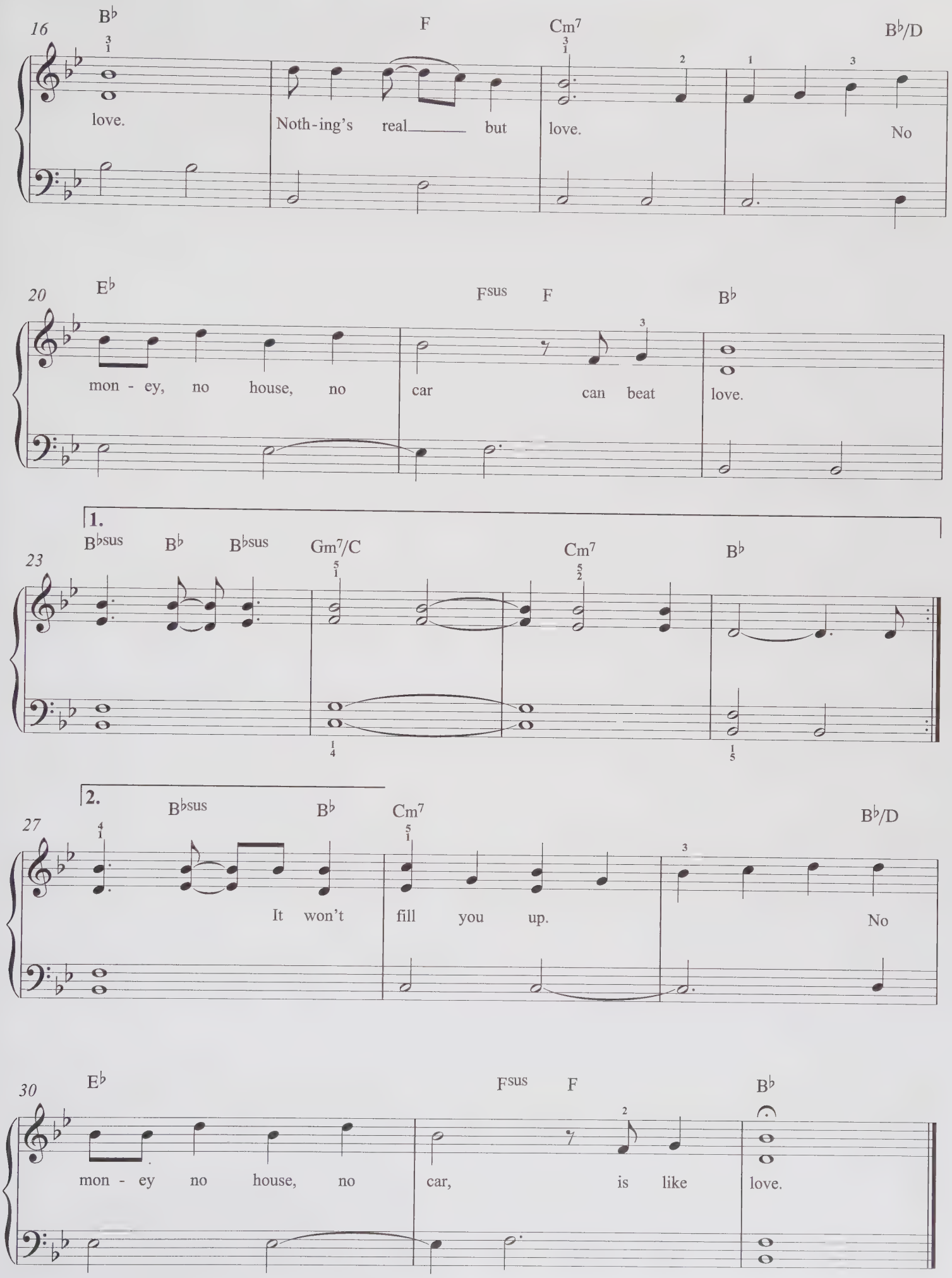
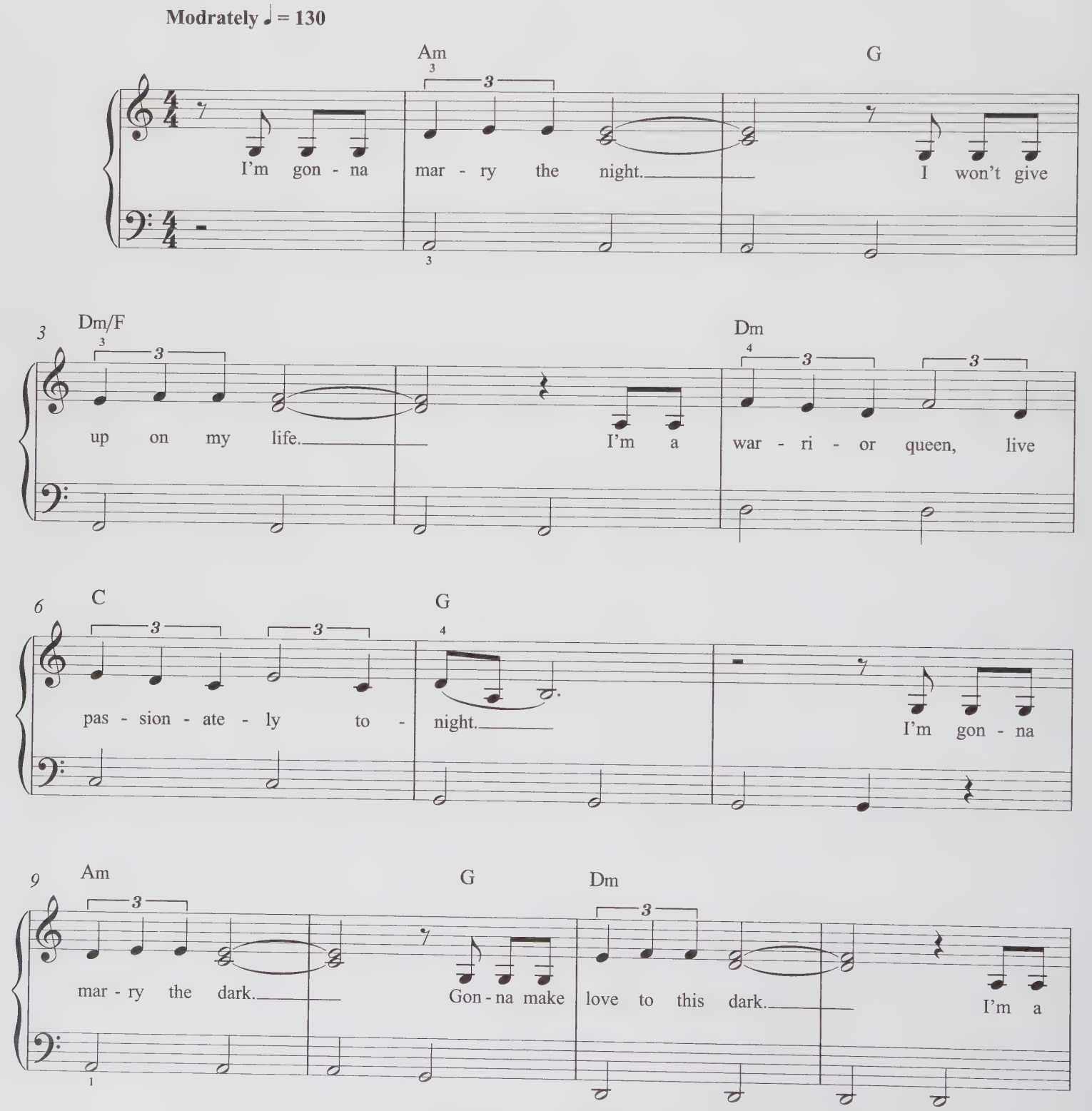

16
B♭
F
Cm7
B♭/D
love.
Noth-ing's real_____ but
love.
No
20
E♭
Fsus
F
B♭
mon - ey, no house, no
car
can beat
love.
1.
23
B♭sus
B♭
B♭sus
Gm7/C
Cm7
B♭
2.
27
B♭sus
B♭
Cm7
B♭/D
It won't
fill you up.
No
30
E♭
Fsus
F
B♭
mon - ey no house, no
car,
is like
love.

Marry The Night

Words & Music by Fernando Garibay & Stefani Germanotta

The fifth single from her second album *Born This Way* after being recorded on her tour bus, this song is an homage to New York, Lady Gaga's hometown, the lyrics being about her love of partying through the night and committing oneself wholeheartedly to what you're most passionate about which, in her case, is music.

Hints & Tips: Triplets are a big feature in this song; make sure you get them nice and even. The steady crotchet accompaniment from bar 31 to the end should help you with counting the off-beat rhythm in the melody.



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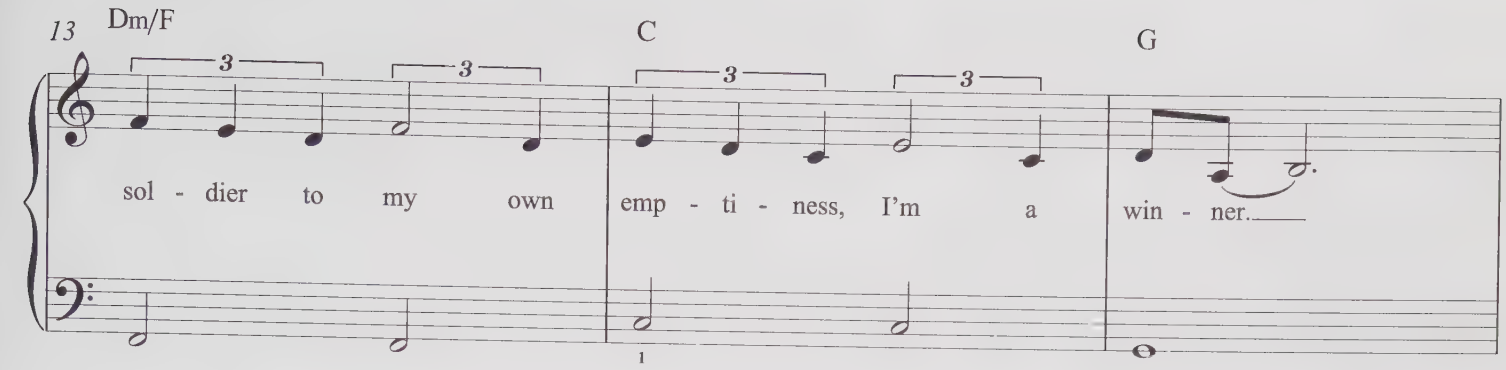
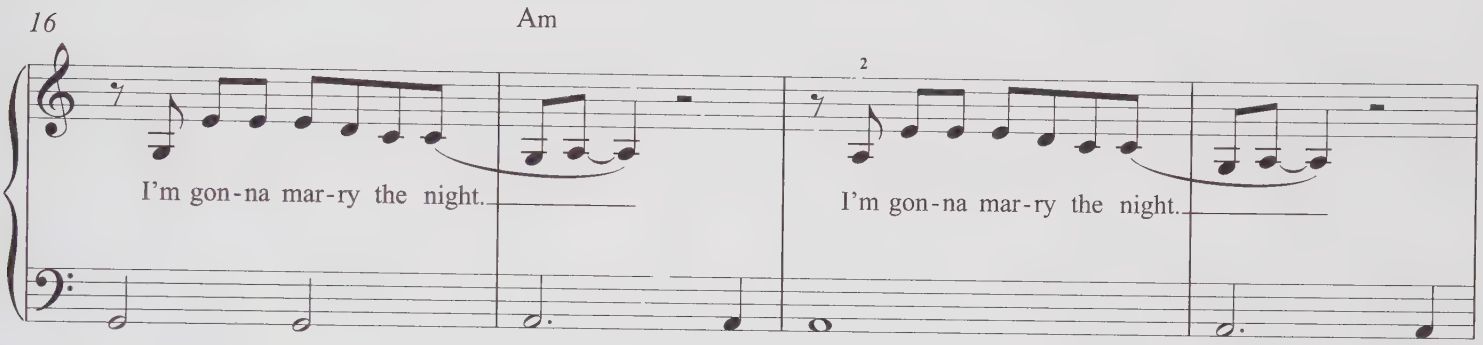
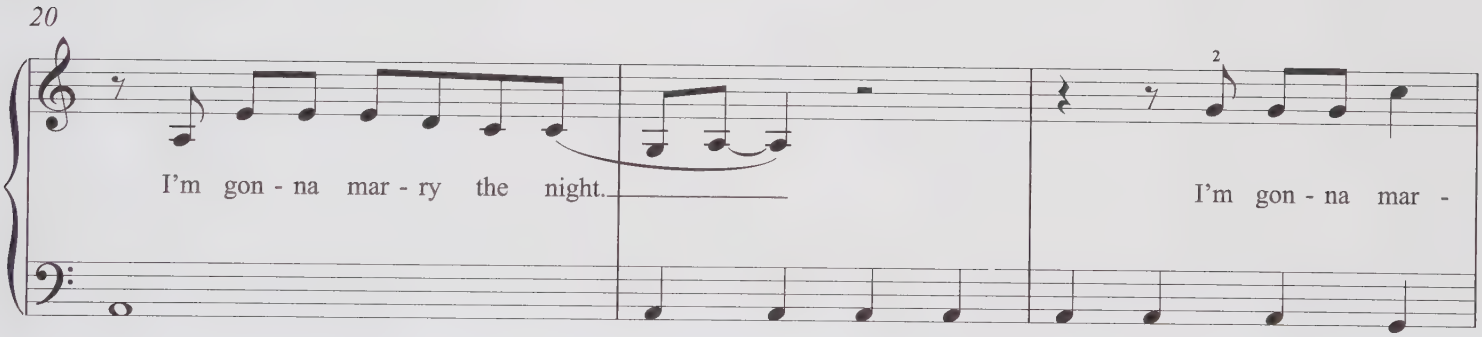
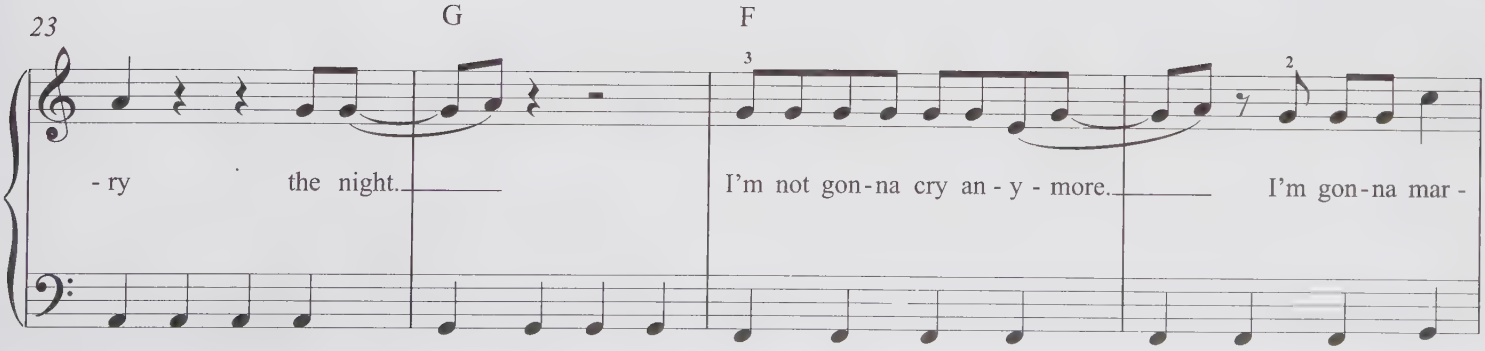
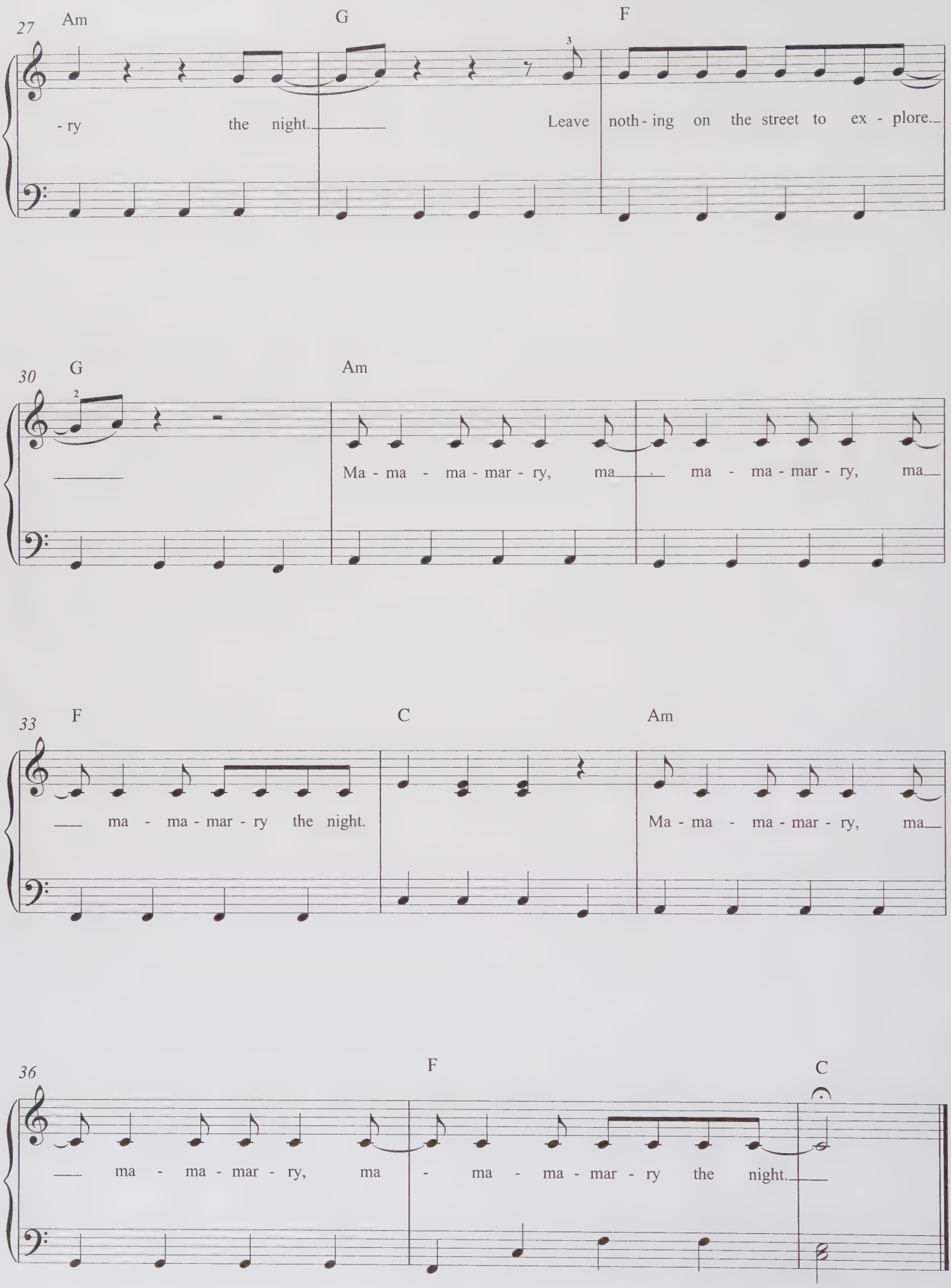

13
Dm/F
C
G
sol - dier to my own emp - ti - ness, I'm a win - ner.


16
Am
I'm gon-na mar-ry the night.
I'm gon-na mar-ry the night.


20
I'm gon - na mar - ry the night.
I'm gon - na mar -


23
G
F
- ry the night.
I'm not gon-na cry an - y - more.
I'm gon-na mar -


27
Am
G
F
- ry the night.
Leave noth - ing on the street to ex - plore.
30
G
Am
Ma - ma - ma - mar - ry, ma
ma - ma - mar - ry, ma
33
F
C
Am
ma - ma - mar - ry the night.
Ma - ma - ma - mar - ry, ma
36
F
C
ma - ma - mar - ry, ma
- ma - ma - mar - ry the night.

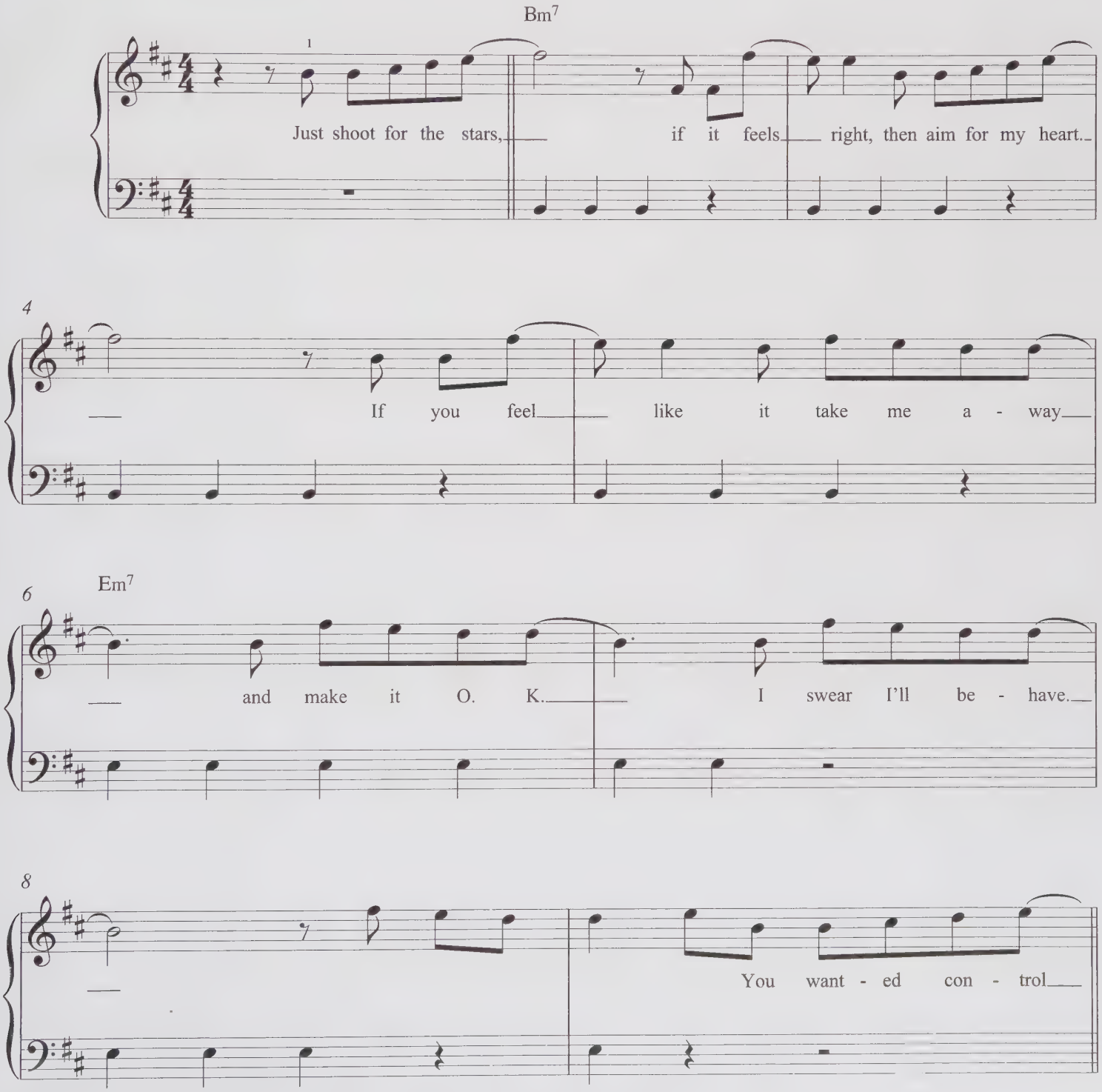
Moves Like Jagger

Words & Music by Adam Levine, Benjamin Levin, Shellback & Ammar Malik

After topping the US Billboard Hot 100, this single went on to sell more than a million copies in the UK, finishing up as the second biggest seller of 2011 despite never topping the charts. Peaking at No. 2 for seven consecutive weeks, in the first six it was uniquely held off the top by six different singles, each debuting directly ahead of it!

Hints & Tips: Look through the melody before playing and note where the leaps and tricky spots are in the right hand, so your hand is in the correct position.

Moderately, strong beat ♩ = 128



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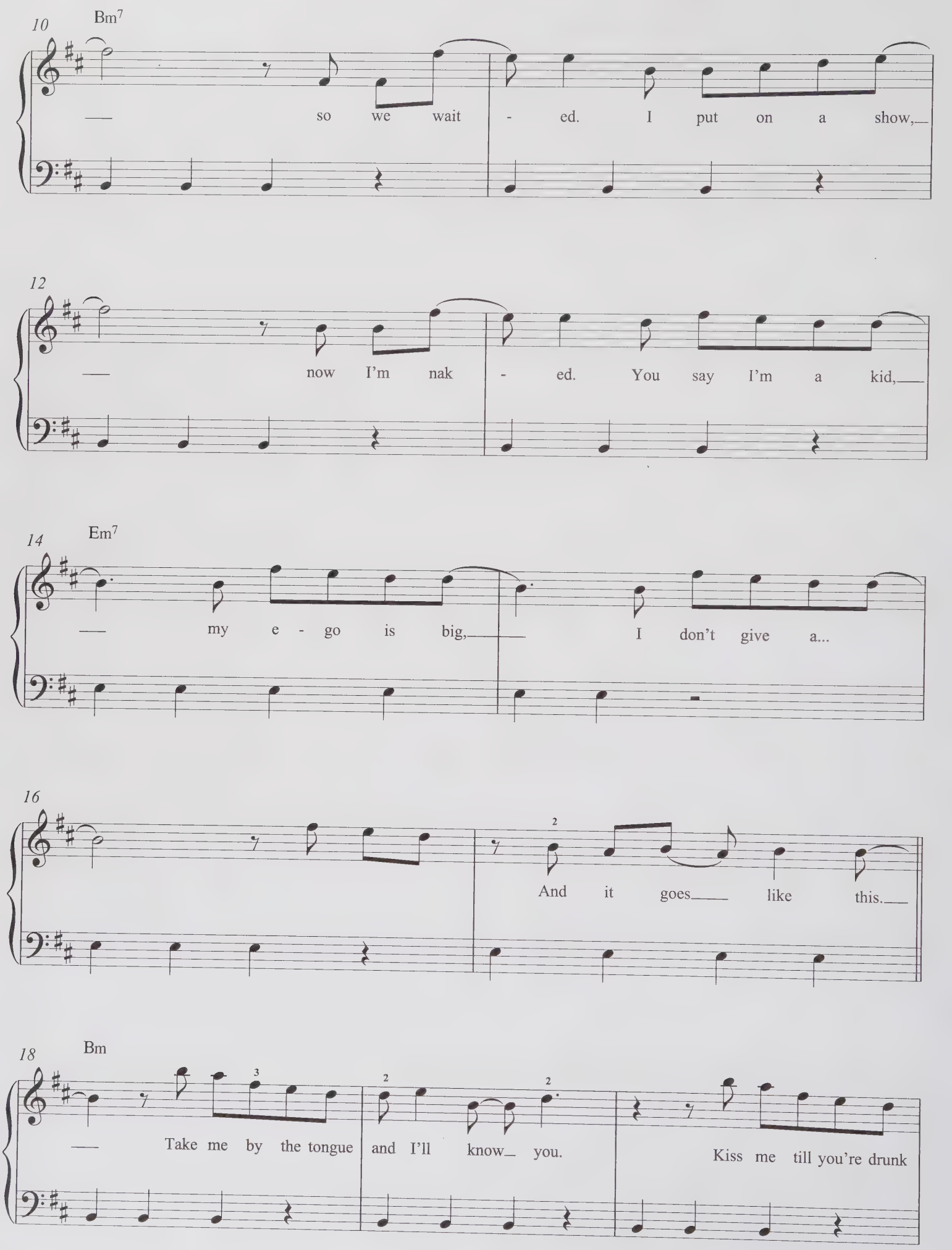
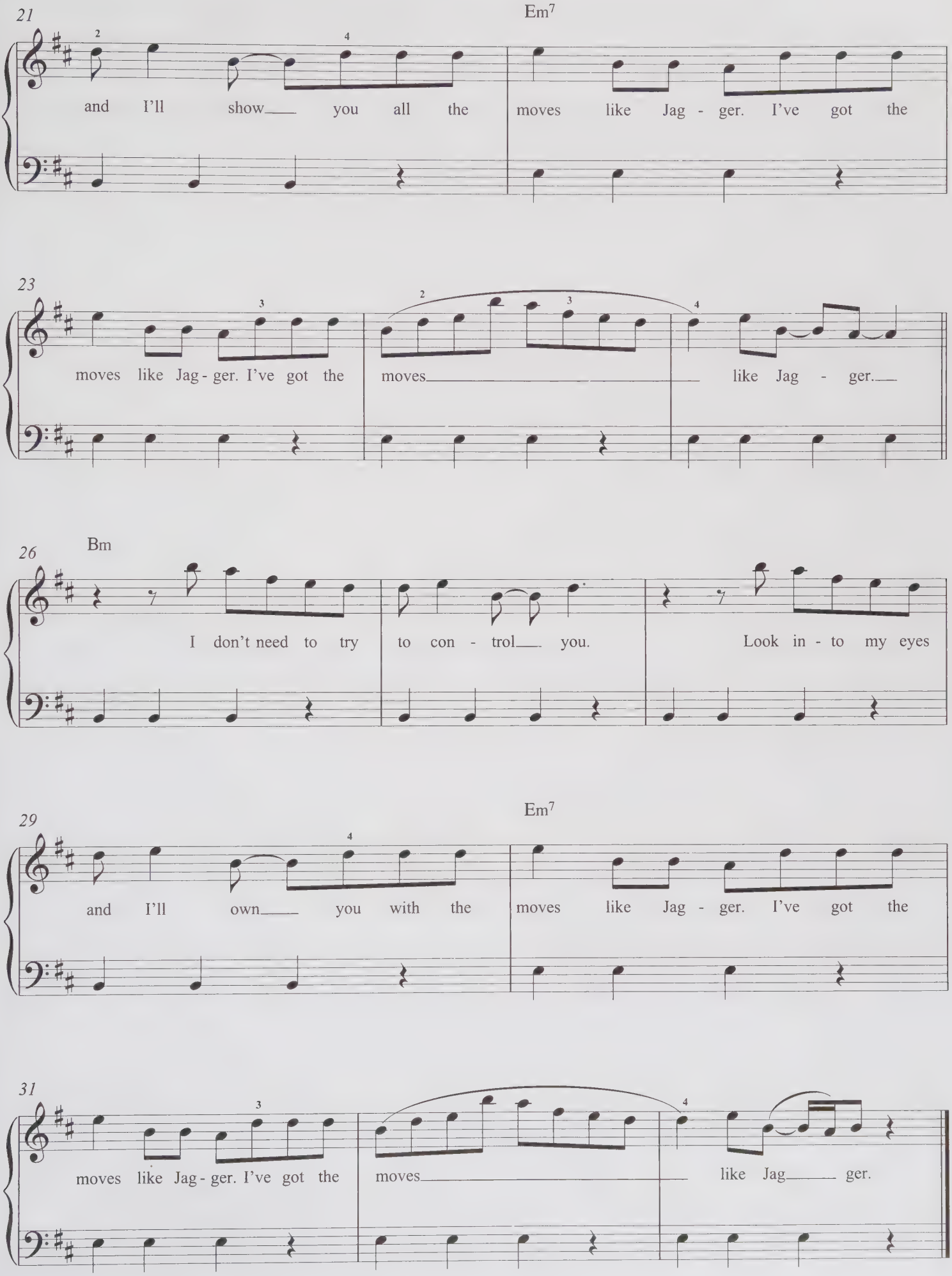

10
Bm7
so we wait - ed. I put on a show,
12
now I'm nak - ed. You say I'm a kid,
14
Em7
my e - go is big, I don't give a...
16
And it goes like this.
18
Bm
Take me by the tongue and I'll know you.
Kiss me till you're drunk

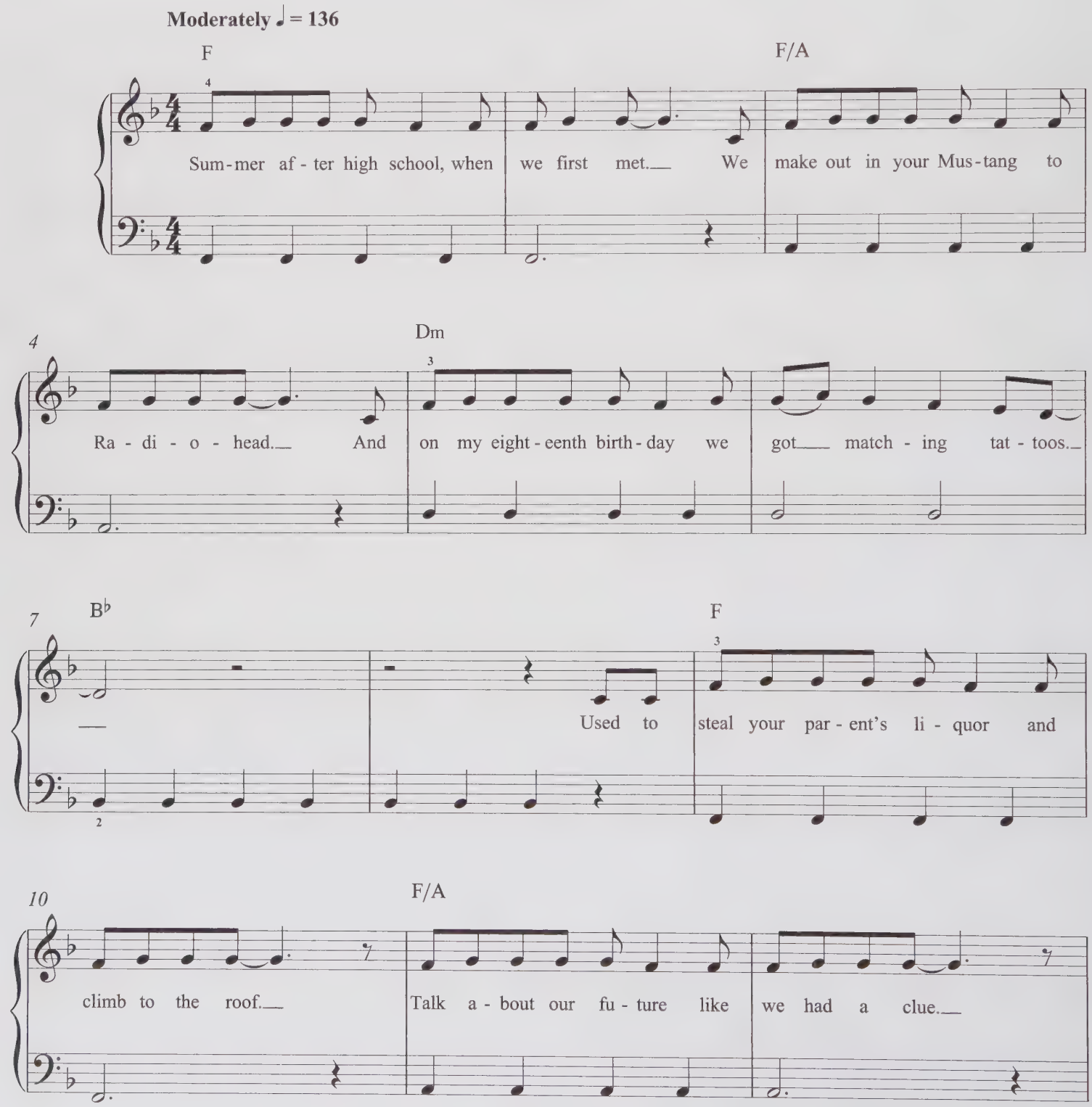

21
Em7
and I'll show you all the moves like Jag - ger. I've got the
23
moves like Jag - ger. I've got the moves like Jag - ger.
26
Bm
I don't need to try to con - trol you. Look in - to my eyes
29
Em7
and I'll own you with the moves like Jag - ger. I've got the
31
moves like Jag - ger. I've got the moves like Jag ger.

The One That Got Away

Words & Music by Lukasz Gottwald, Katy Perry & Martin Max

The chart success of this mid-tempo ballad, a bittersweet story about a lost love, helped Katy Perry become the first female artist to have five hits on the Billboard Hot 100 in one year and the first artist to spend 52 consecutive weeks in its top 10. No surprise then that she was elected MTV's 2011 Artist of the Year.

Hints & Tips: The rhythm is mostly steady and straightforward, but have a look at the right hand in bar 16 – this is a bit trickier and crops up a few times, so make sure you've got the hang of it before tackling the whole piece.



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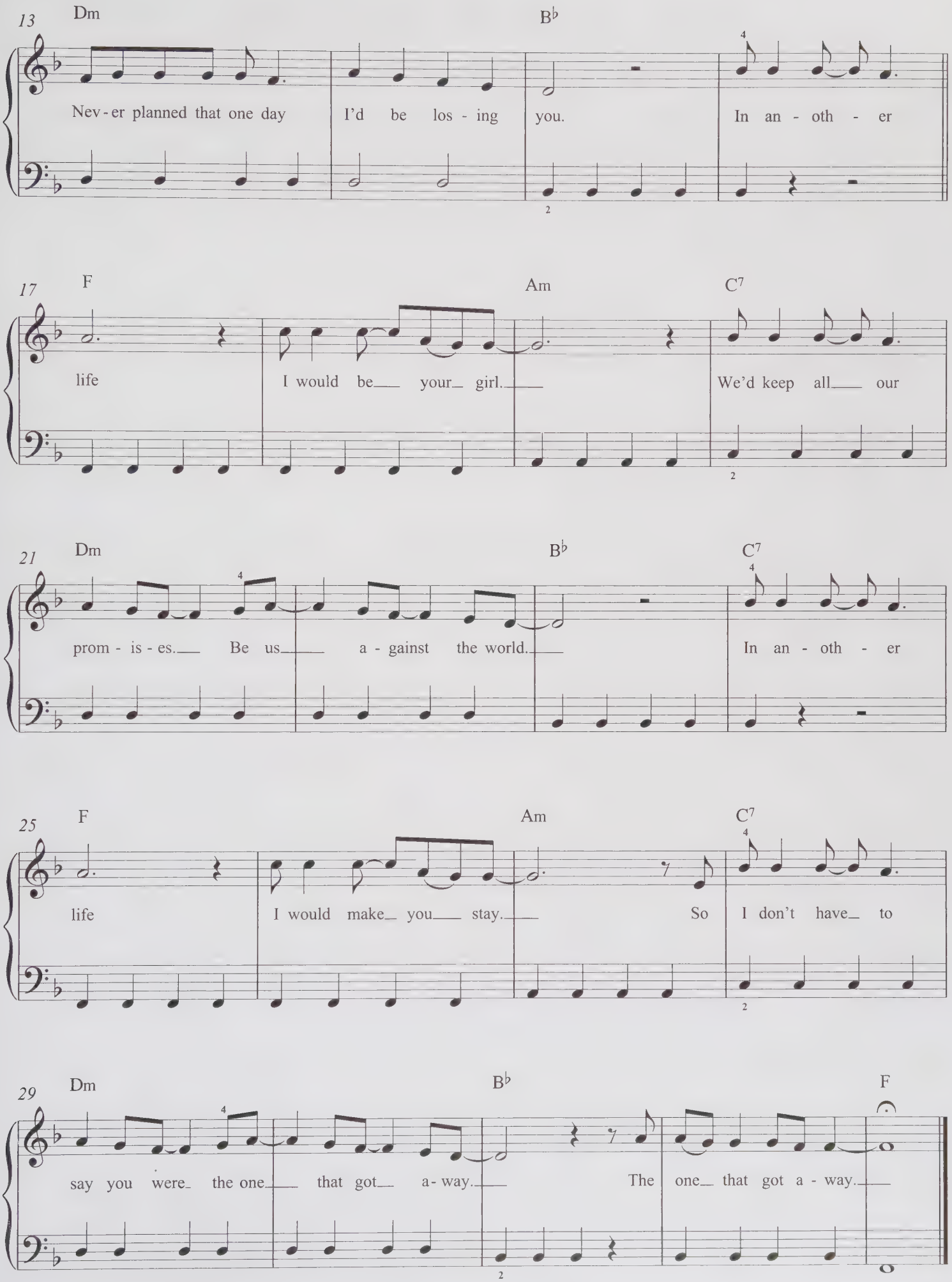
13
Dm
B♭
Nev - er planned that one day
I'd be los - ing
you.
In an - oth - er
17
F
Am
C7
life
I would be your girl.
We'd keep all our
21
Dm
B♭
C7
prom - is - es. Be us
a - gainst the world.
In an - oth - er
25
F
Am
C7
life
I would make you stay.
So
I don't have to
29
Dm
B♭
F
say you were the one
that got a - way.
The
one that got a - way.

Our Day Will Come

Words by Mort Garson
Music by Bob Hilliard

After Dionne Warwick recorded the original demo, this song was released in bossa-nova style by Ruby And The Romantics, getting to No. 1 in the US in 1963. Amy's reggae version was recorded for her debut album *Frank* but was shelved, later to be issued as the first single from her posthumous album *Lioness: Hidden Treasures*.

Hints & Tips: Check carefully though this song for accidentals, as there are quite a few throughout.

Slow ballad tempo ♩ = 100

G B♭7
Our day will come,
Our day will come,

3 Am7 D7 G
and we'll have ev - 'ry - thing. We'll share the
if we just wait a - while. No tears for

6 B♭7 Am7 D7
joy fall - ing in love can bring.
us think love, and wear a smile.

9 Dm G7 Dm G7 1. C
No one can tell me that I'm too young to know.
Our dreams have ma - gic be - cause we'll

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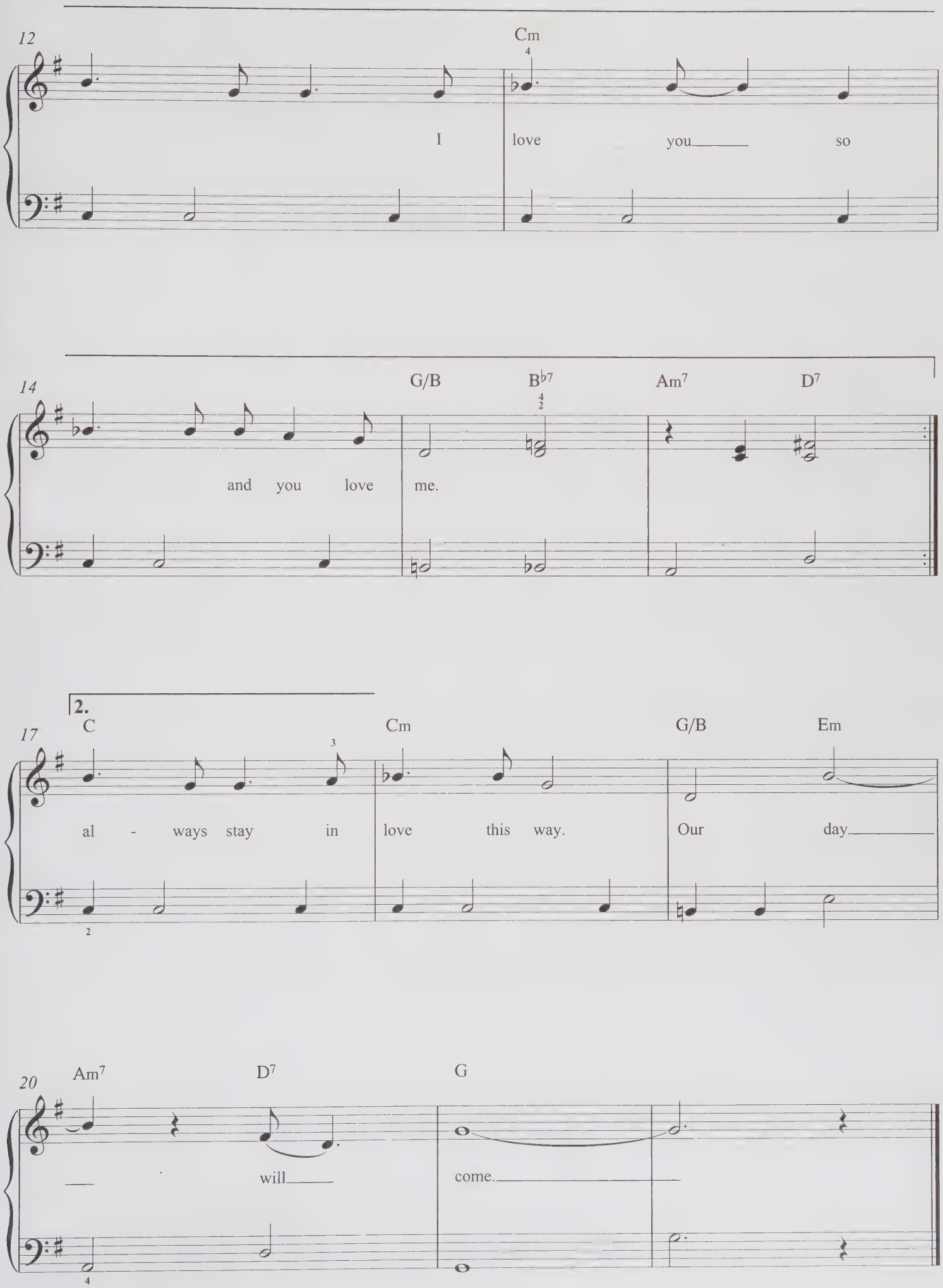
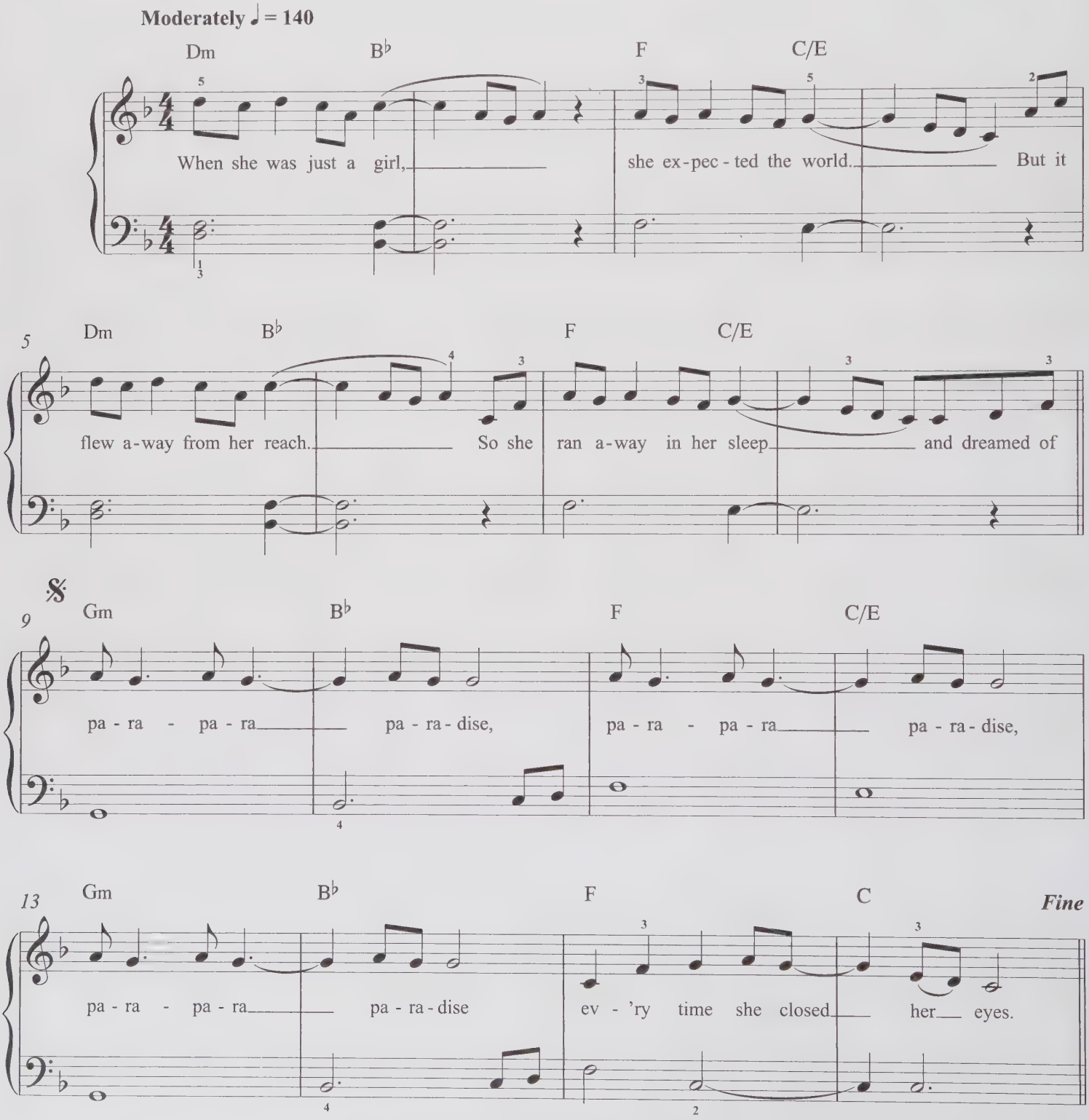

12
Cm
I love you so
14
G/B
B♭7
Am7
D7
and you love me.
2.
17
C
Cm
G/B
Em
al - ways stay in love this way. Our day
20
Am7
D7
G
will come.

Paradise

Words & Music by Chris Martin, Guy Berryman, Jon Buckland, Will Champion & Brian Eno

This song about a young girl's dashed hopes and dreams became the UK's first No. 1 single of 2012 and only the band's second, no less than 16 weeks after its initial release. For the first six it had been ineligible for the charts, it being available as a free download to those pre-ordering the album *Mylo Xyloto*, on which it appears.

Hints & Tips: There are lots of changes of hand position throughout, especially in the first few bars. Start off playing this slowly and gradually build up the speed.



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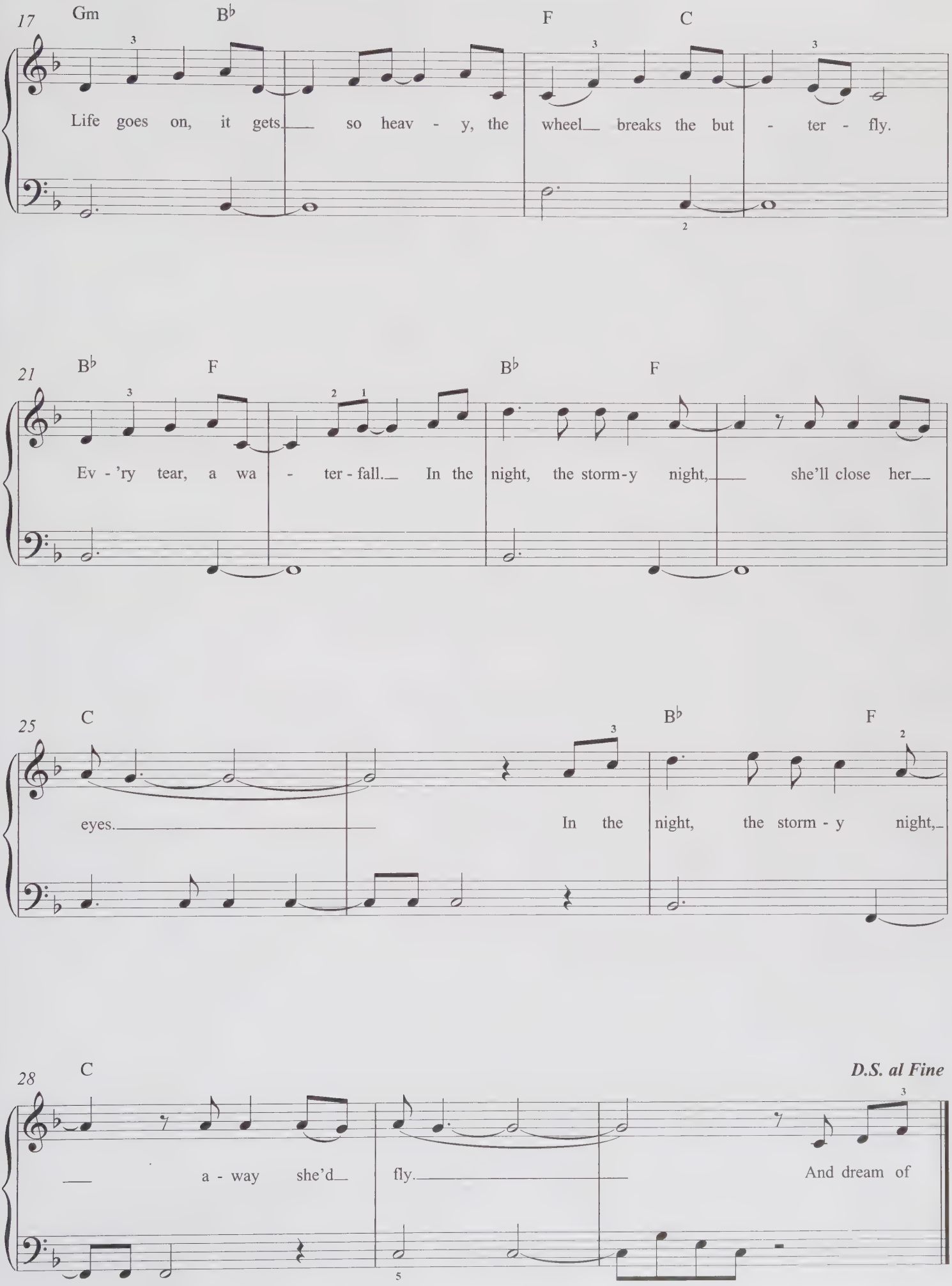
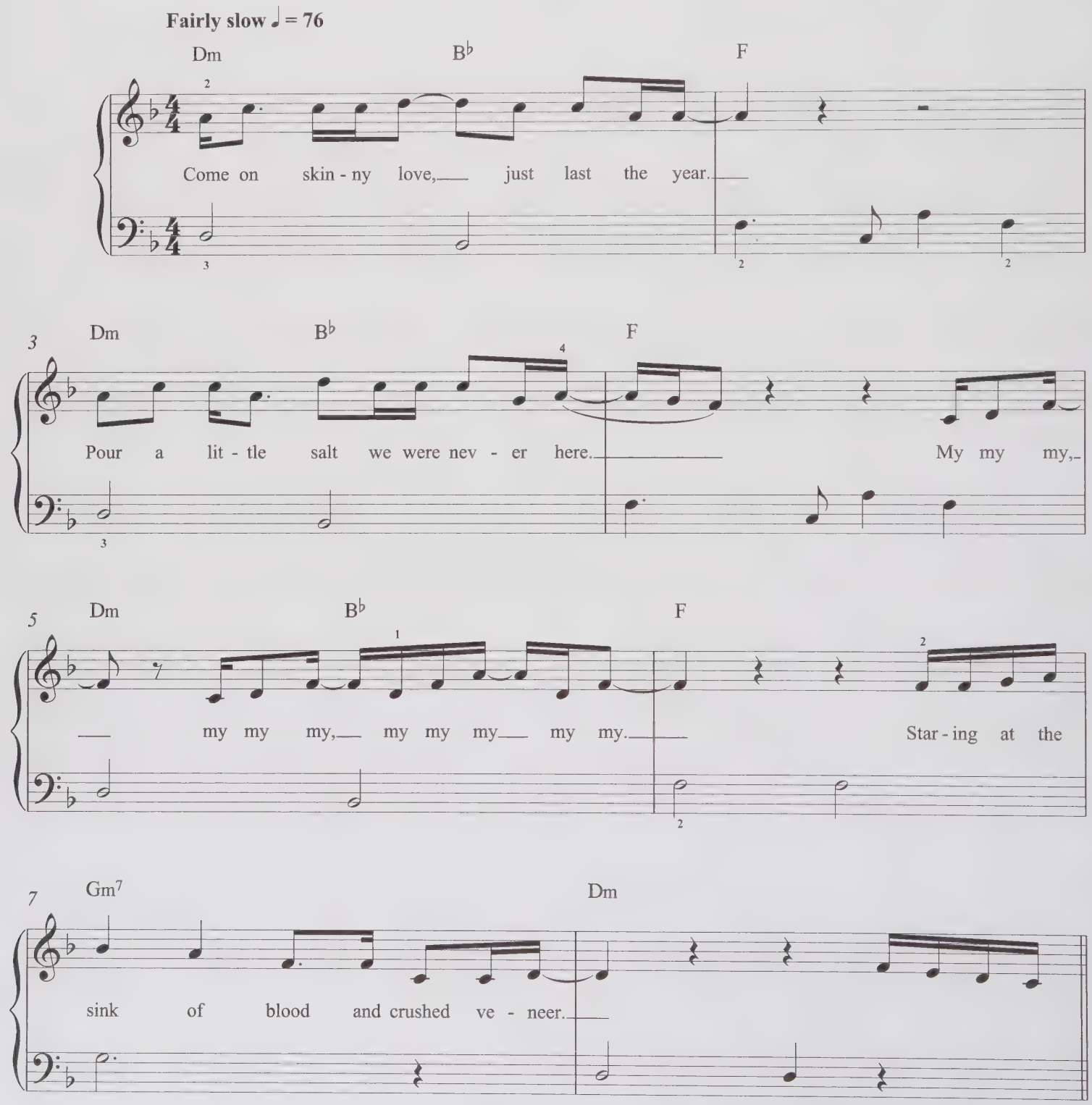

17
Gm
B♭
F
C
Life goes on, it gets so heav - y, the wheel breaks the but - ter - fly.
21
B♭
F
B♭
F
Ev - 'ry tear, a wa - ter - fall. In the night, the storm - y night, she'll close her
25
C
B♭
F
eyes. In the night, the storm - y night,
28
C
D.S. al Fine
a - way she'd fly. And dream of

Skinny Love

Words & Music by Justin Vernon

At the age of 12 Birdy won both the Under-18s section and the Grand Prize of the talent competition Open Mic UK, performing one of her own compositions. Recorded when she was 14 and released as her debut single in January 2011, this is a cover of a song that the American indie folk band Bon Iver released in the UK in 2008.

Hints & Tips: This is a soft and gentle song and should be played *mezzo piano*. Count through the right hand rhythms carefully; use the steady minims in the left hand to help keep time.



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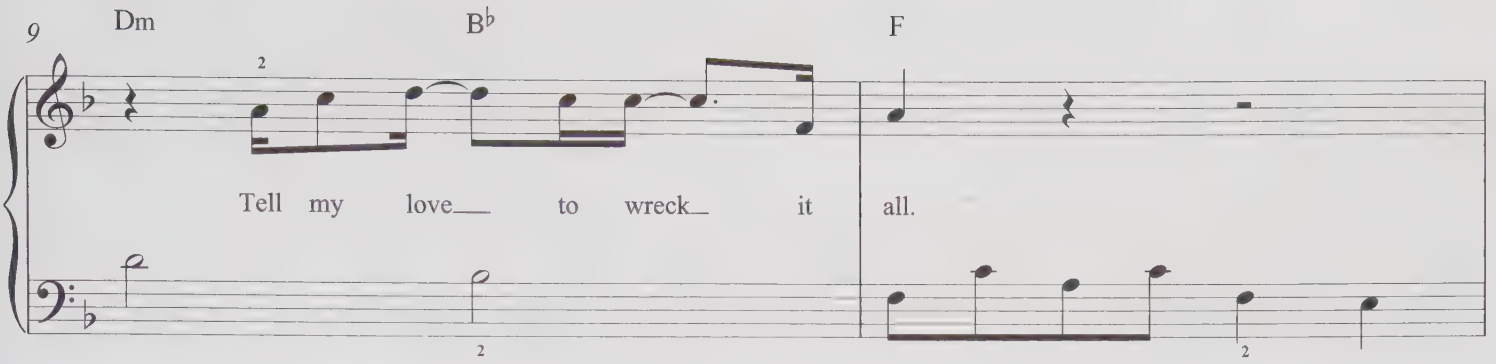
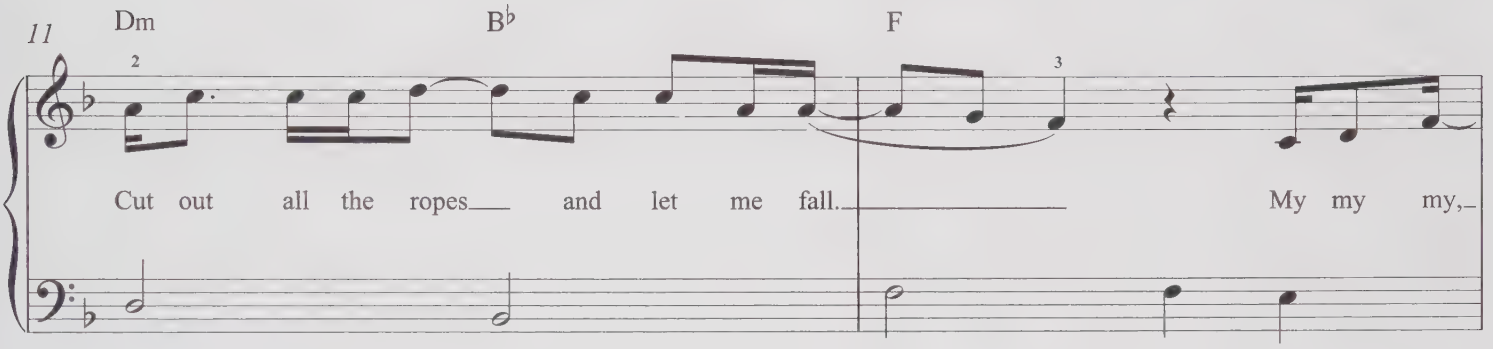
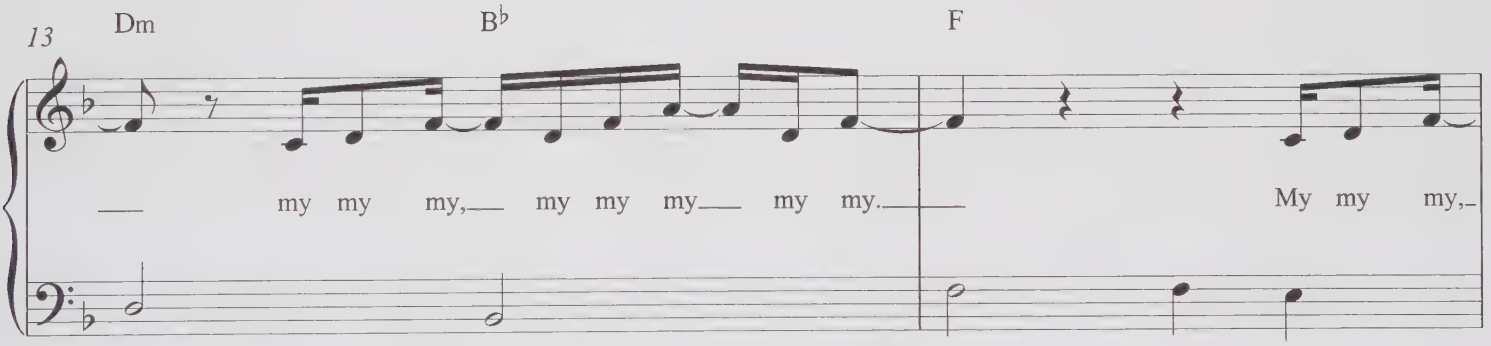
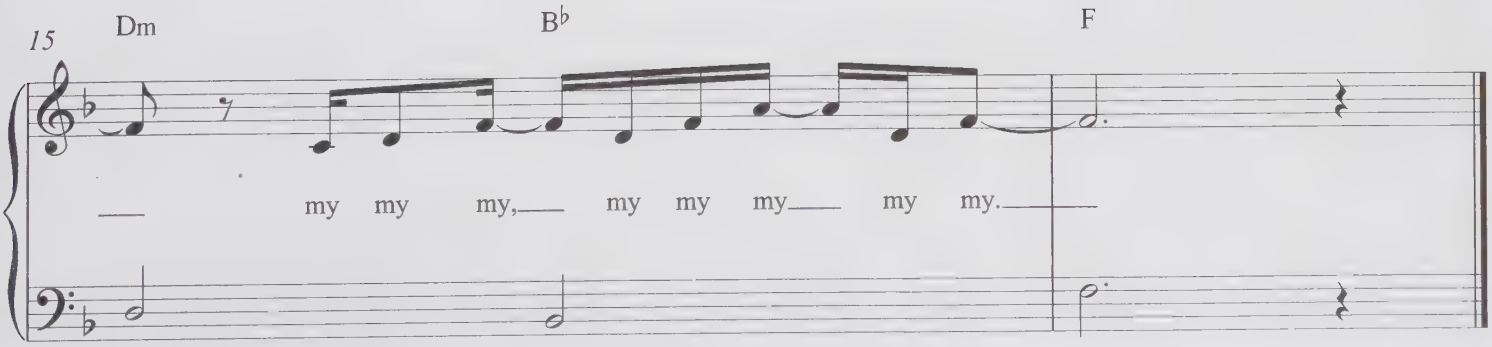

9
Dm
B♭
F
Tell my love to wreck it all.


11
Dm
B♭
F
Cut out all the ropes and let me fall.
My my my,


13
Dm
B♭
F
my my my, my my my my my.
My my my,

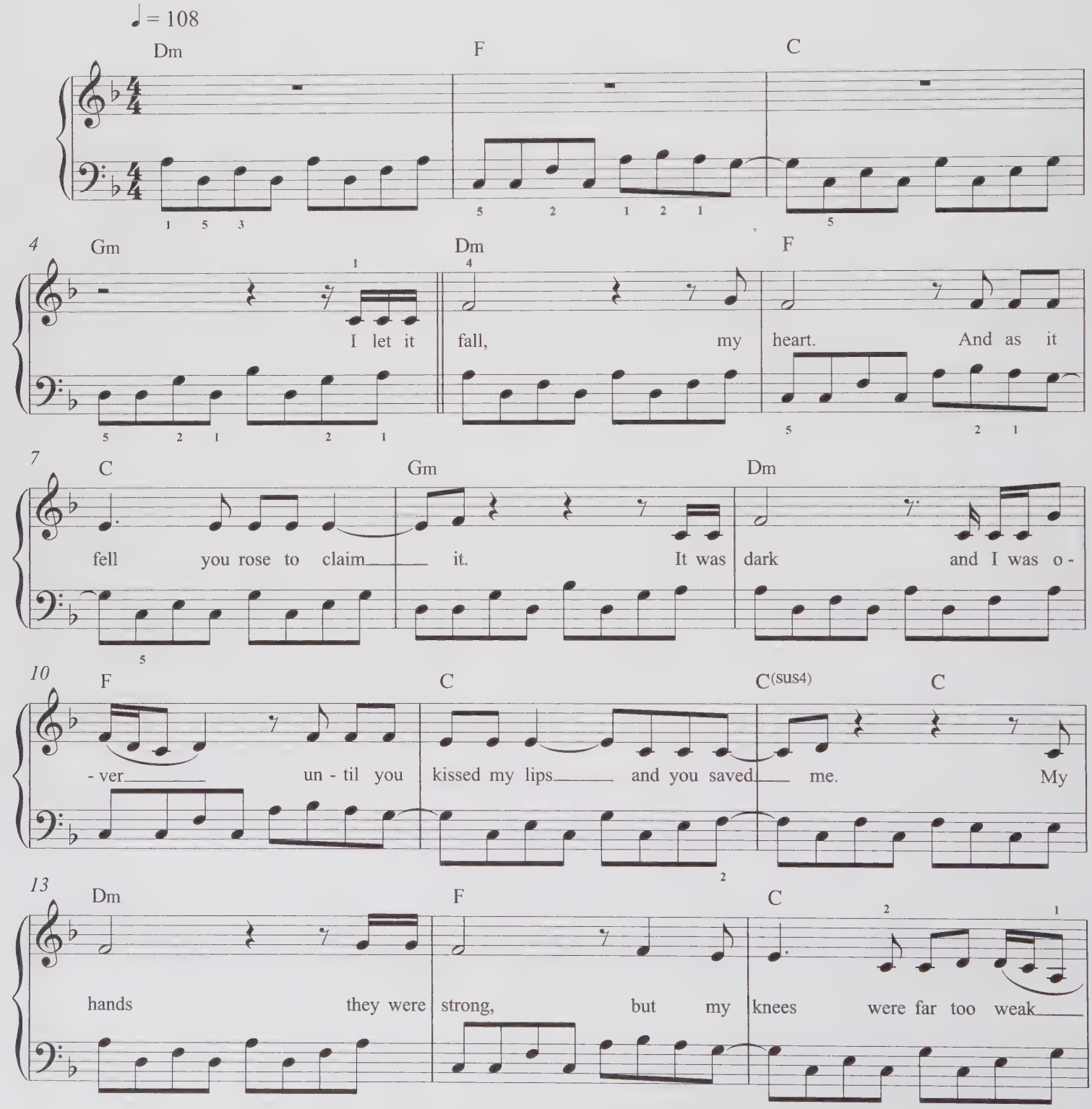

15
Dm
B♭
F
my my my, my my my my my.

Set Fire To The Rain

Words & Music by Fraser Smith & Adele Adkins

The third single released from the album *21*, this song, about the contradictions that complicate relationships, reached No. 11 in the UK. It was co-written with Fraser Smith, one of several songwriters Adele collaborated with for the first time on *21*.

Hints & Tips: Practise the left hand quaver patterns thoroughly. Go over the right hand chords in bars 22 and 24, making sure the notes sound together.



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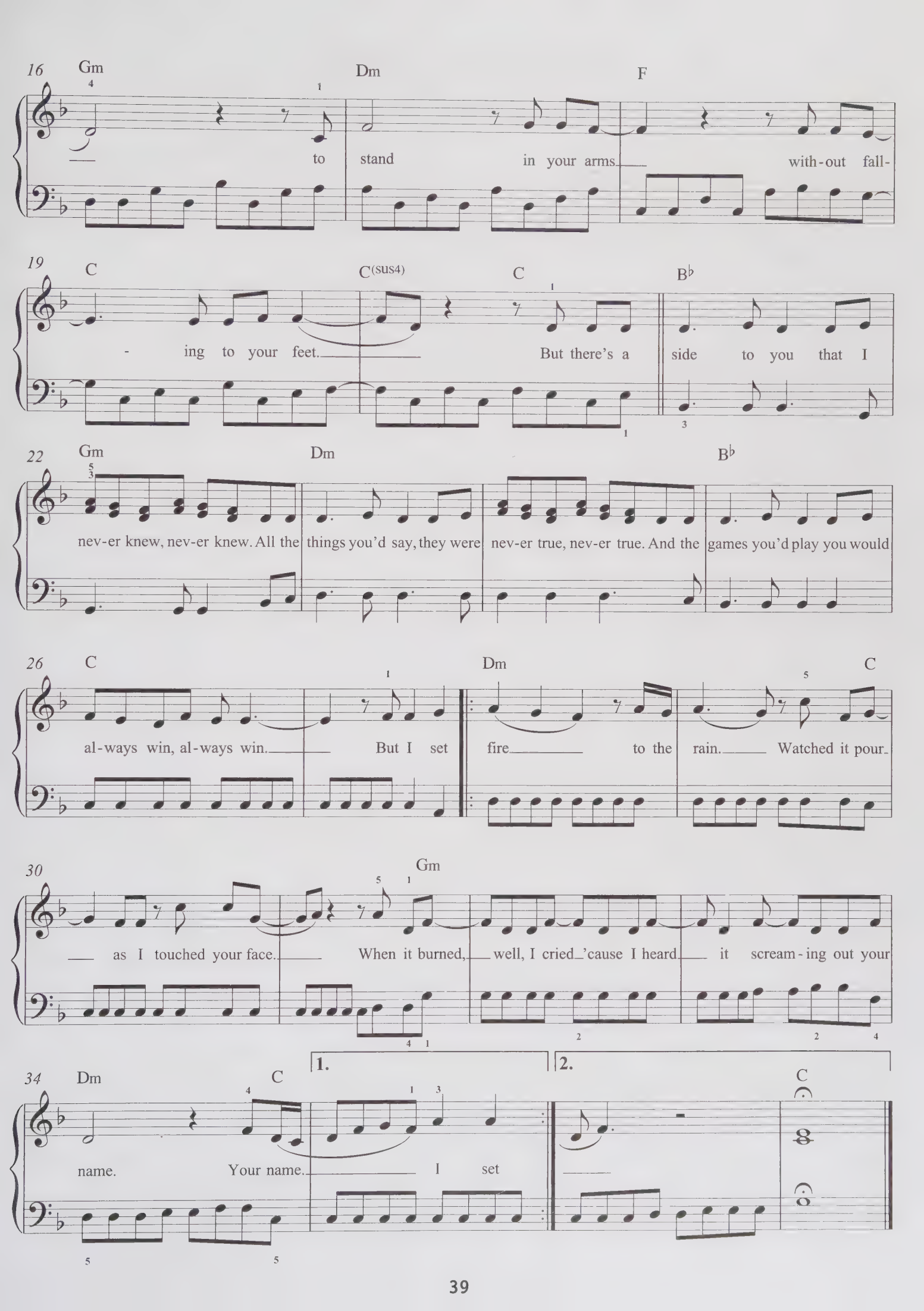
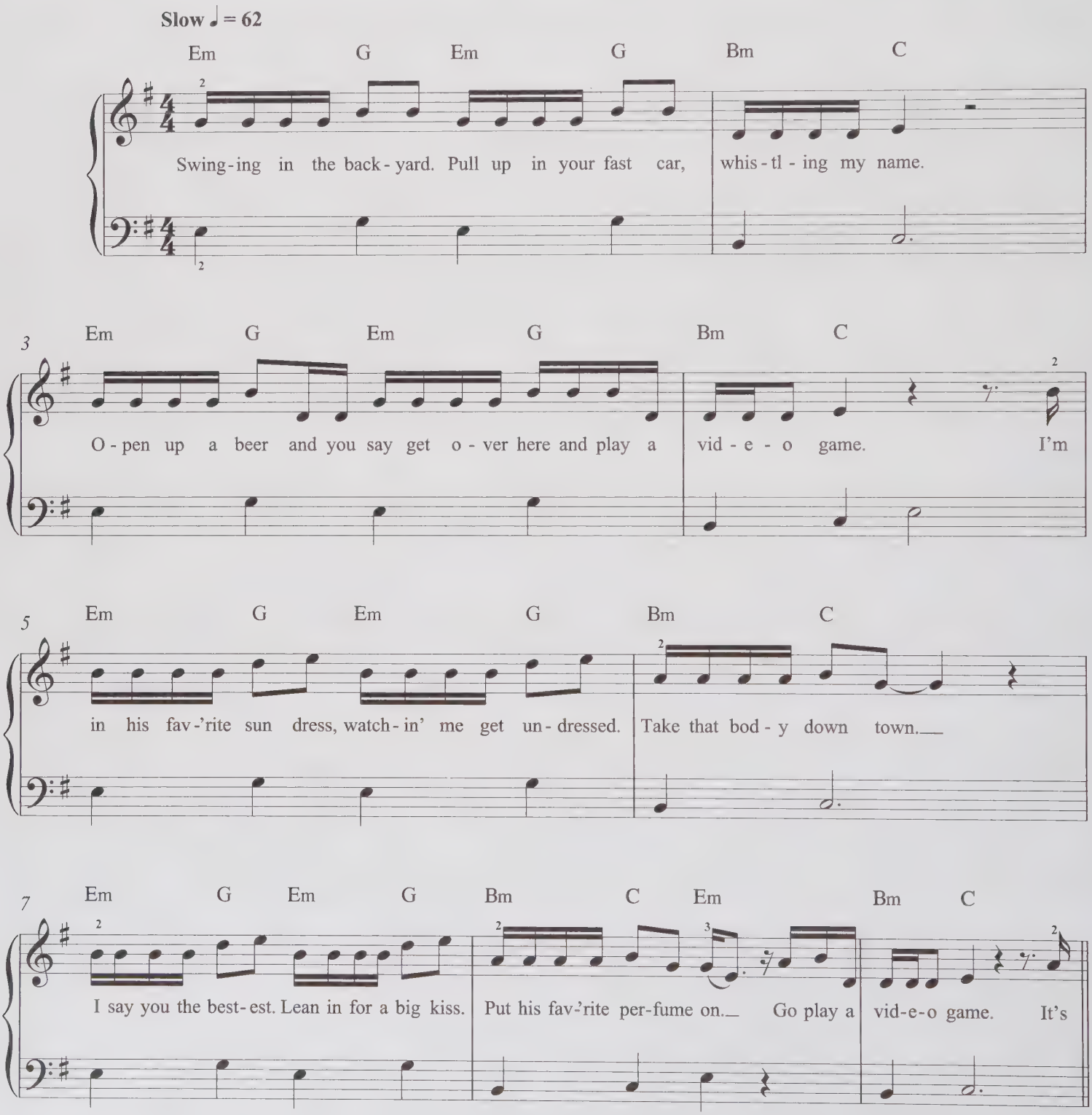

16 Gm Dm F
to stand in your arms with-out fall-
19 C C(sus4) C B♭
- ing to your feet. But there's a side to you that I
22 Gm Dm B♭
nev-er knew, nev-er knew. All the things you'd say, they were nev-er true, nev-er true. And the games you'd play you would
26 C Dm C
al-ways win, al-ways win. But I set fire to the rain. Watched it pour-
30 Gm
as I touched your face. When it burned, well, I cried 'cause I heard it scream-ing out your
34 Dm C
name. Your name. I set
1.
2.
C

Video Games

Words & Music by Elizabeth Grant & Justin Parker

This song about the frustration of making all the running in a relationship with an ex-boyfriend is Del Ray's debut single, recorded with lower vocals in the hope of her being seen as a serious artist. She adopted her stage name after management advice that one reminiscent of Hollywood glamour would better suit her kind of music.

Hints & Tips: Note the tempo; it's quite slow, so take you're time but try not to let it drag.



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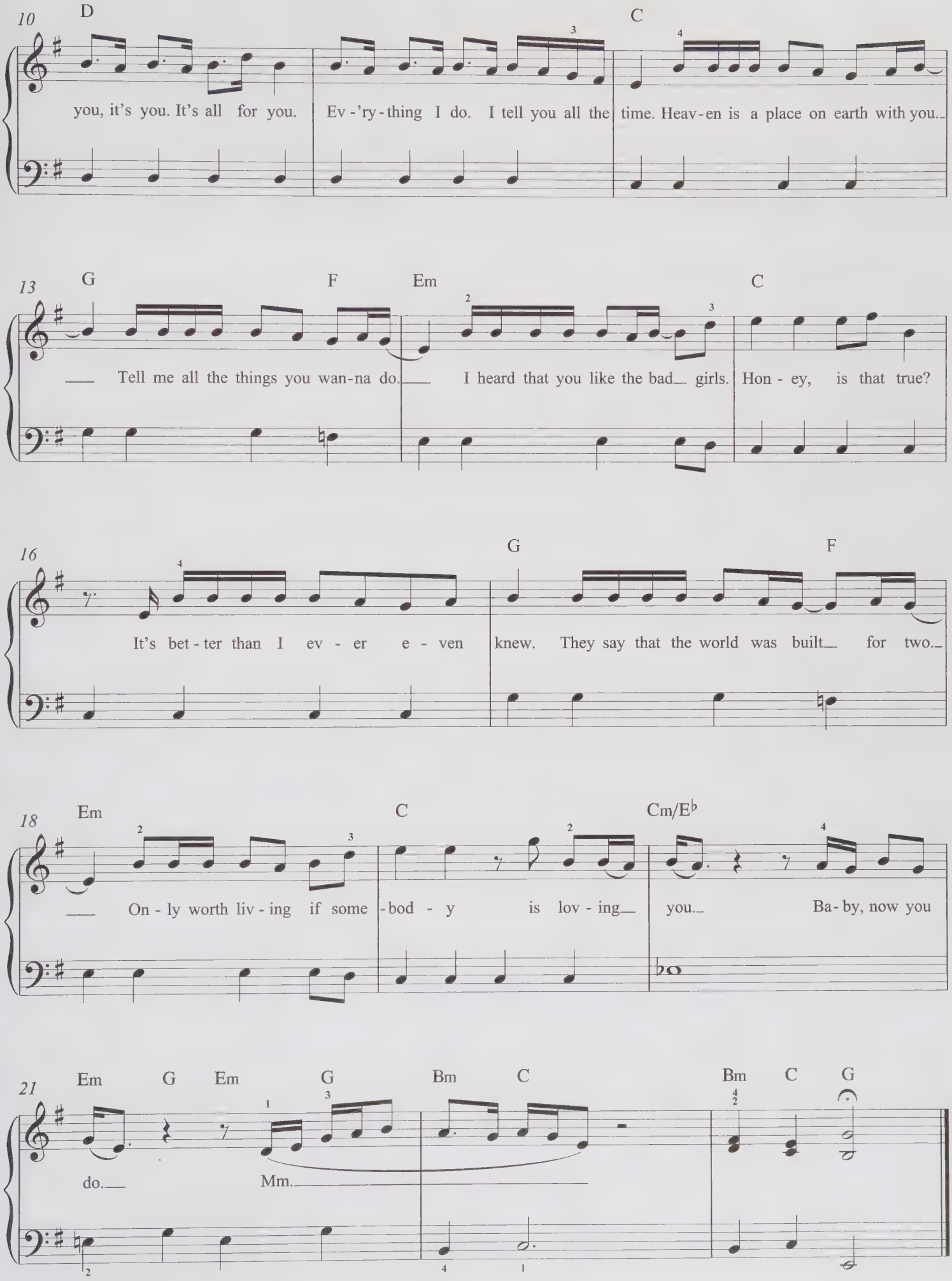
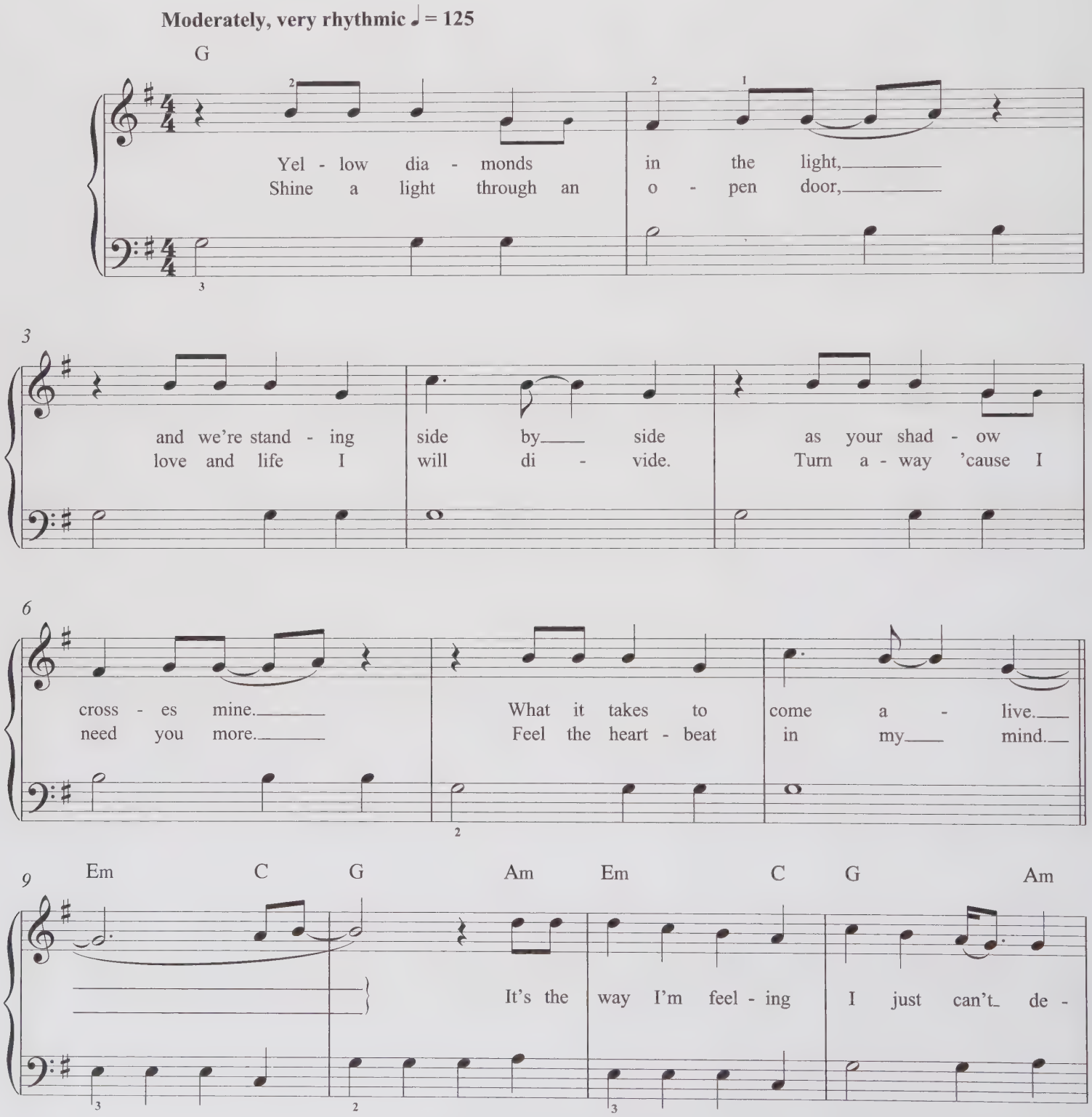

10
D
C
you, it's you. It's all for you. Ev-'ry-thing I do. I tell you all the time. Heav-en is a place on earth with you.
13
G
F
Em
C
Tell me all the things you wan-na do. I heard that you like the bad girls. Hon-ey, is that true?
16
G
F
It's bet-ter than I ev-er e-ven knew. They say that the world was built for two.
18
Em
C
Cm/E♭
On-ly worth liv-ing if some-bod-y is lov-ing you. Ba-by, now you
21
Em
G
Em
G
Bm
C
Bm
C
G
do. Mm.

We Found Love

Words & Music by Calvin Harris

In 2011 Rihanna spent more time at the top of the UK Singles charts than any other artist, this song being her sixth No. 1 spread over five consecutive years, a record unequalled by any other female solo artist. It was also her 11th No. 1 on the US Billboard Hot 100, making her the quickest solo artist to amass twenty Top 10 singles.

Hints & Tips: The melody is very repetitive, so be as expressive as you can or it could sound dull.



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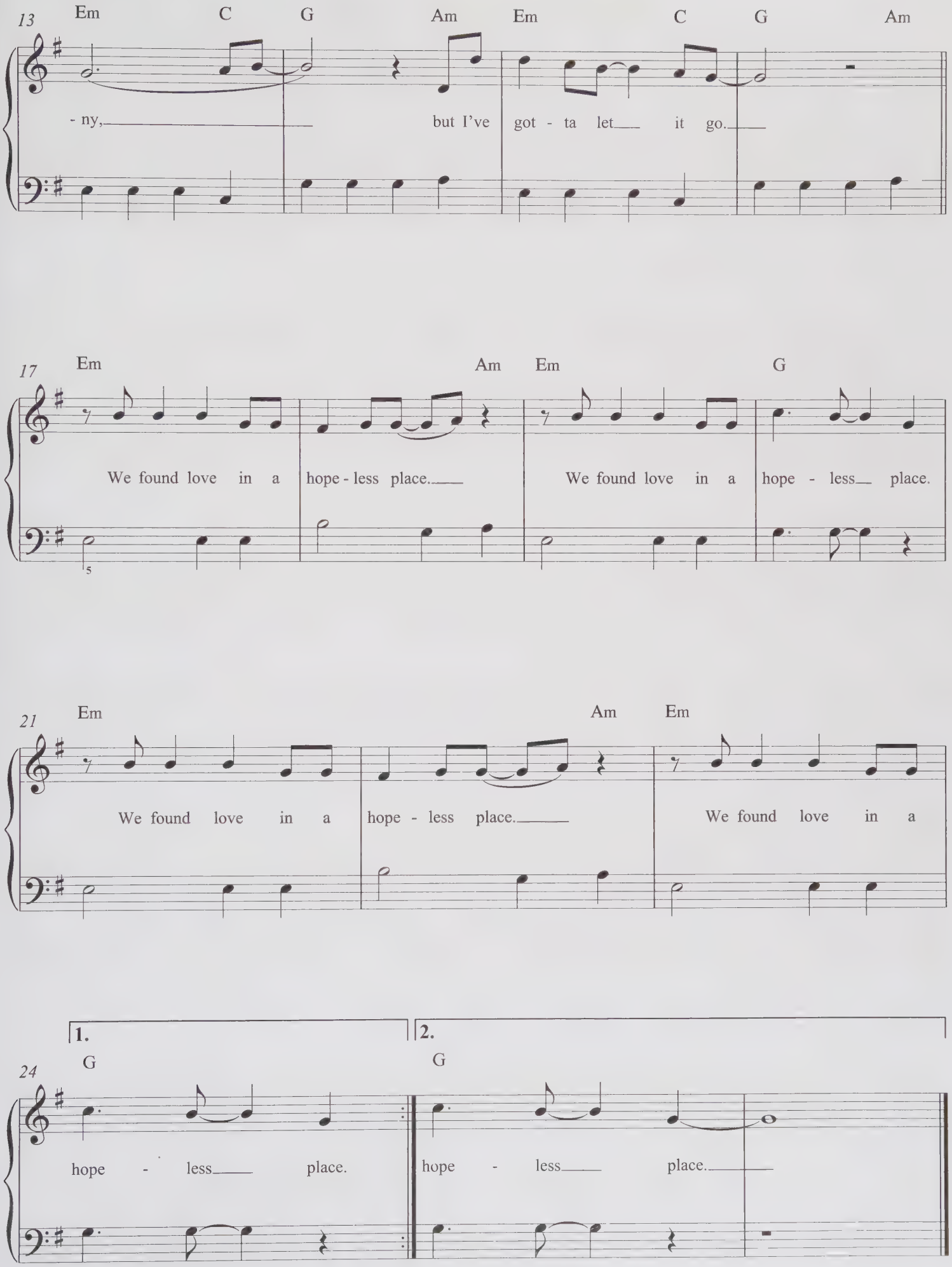
13
Em C G Am Em C G Am
- ny, but I've got - ta let it go.
17
Em Am Em G
We found love in a hope - less place. We found love in a hope - less place.
21
Em Am Em
We found love in a hope - less place. We found love in a
24
1. G
hope - less place.
2. G
hope - less place.

Who You Are

Words & Music by Shelly Peiken, Tobias Gad & Jessica Cornish

Written after a lonely three-month trip to Los Angeles when she was shunted from studio to studio, Jessie J credits this song for having saved her life musically. Released in the UK as the fifth single from her debut album of the same name, it spent a total of 11 weeks in the charts, peaking at No. 8.

Hints & Tips: Don't start this song too slowly; use the steady, driving rhythm in the left hand to help keep time. Look out for the sudden change of hand position in bar 24 and have the right hand fourth finger ready.

Moderately, strong beat ♩ = 130

Am F C Dm

I stare at my re - flec - tion in the mir - ror.

5 Am F C Dm

Why am I do - ing this to my - self?

9 Am F C G

Los - ing my mind on a ti - ny er - ror.

13 Am7 F C Dm

I near - ly left the real me on the shelf. No, no, no, no, no.

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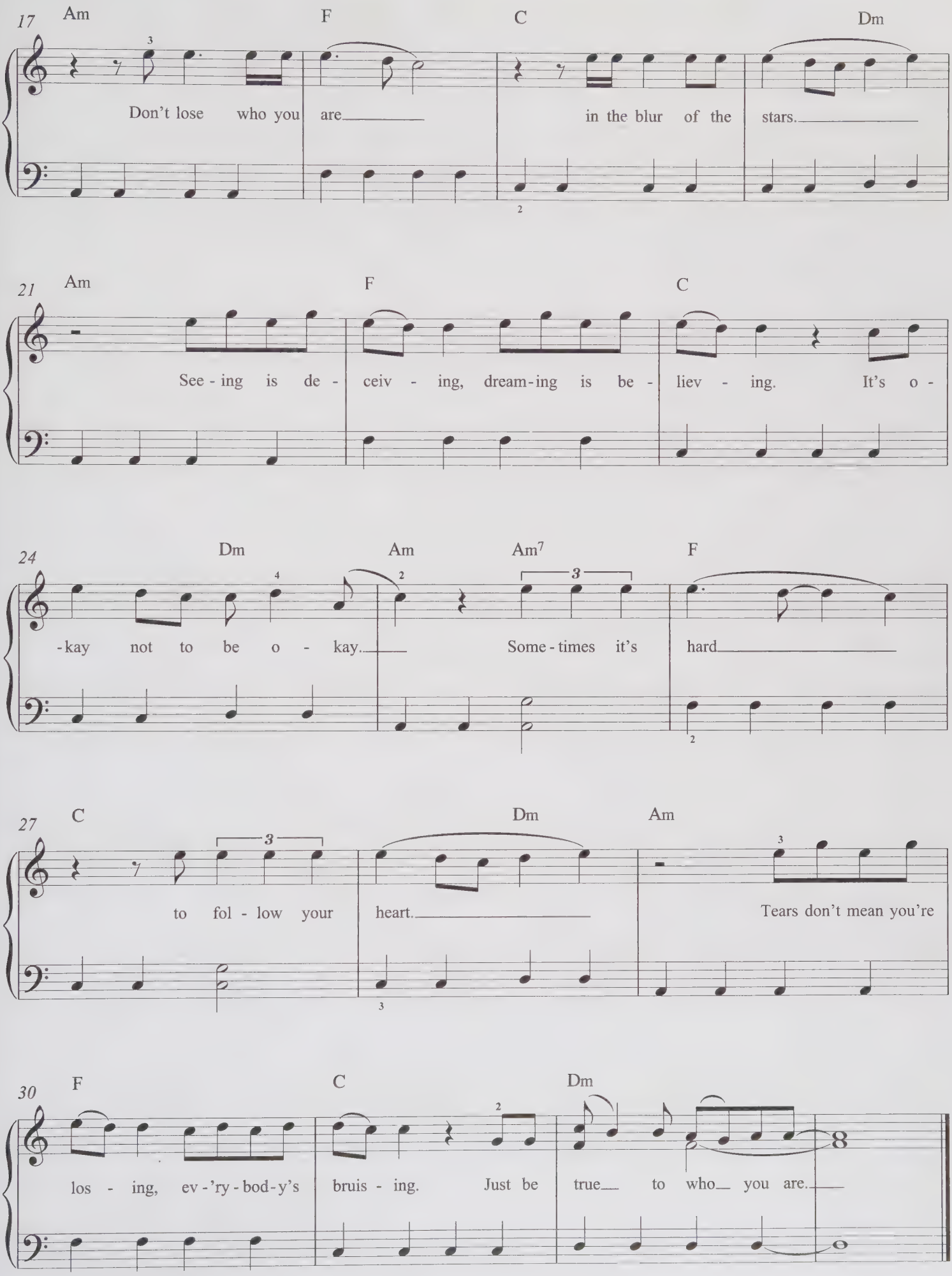
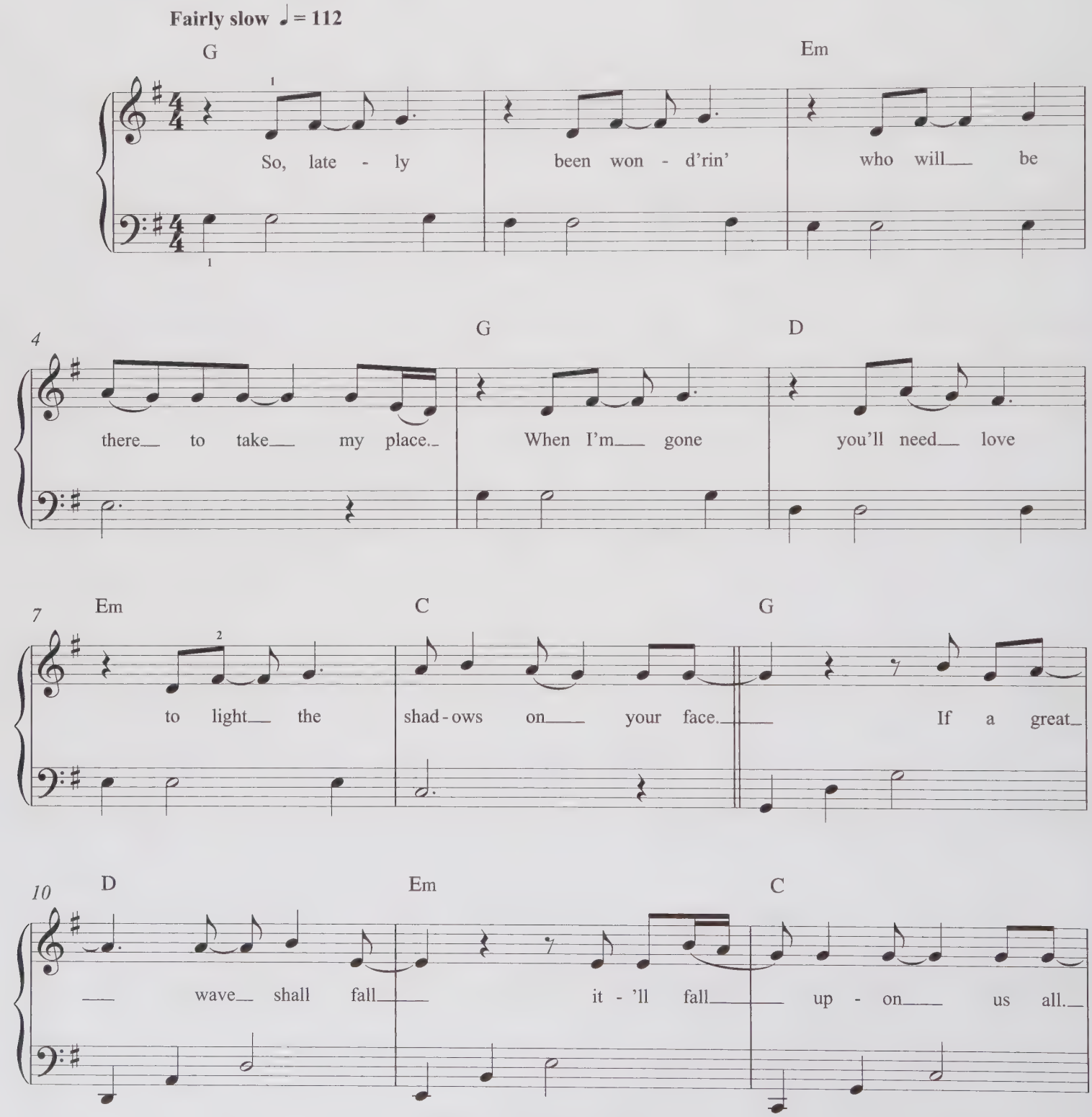

17
Am F C Dm
Don't lose who you are in the blur of the stars.
21
Am F C
See - ing is de - ceiv - ing, dream - ing is be - liev - ing. It's o -
24
Dm Am Am7 F
-kay not to be o - kay. Some - times it's hard
27
C Dm Am
to fol - low your heart. Tears don't mean you're
30
F C Dm
los - ing, ev - 'ry - bod - y's bruis - ing. Just be true to who you are.

Wherever You Will Go

Words & Music by Aaron Kamin & Alex Band

The most successful hit by American alternative rock band The Calling when they released it in 2001, ten years later this version by Brit School graduate Charlene Soraia became popular in the UK, spending 13 weeks in the charts and peaking at No. 3 after it was used in an advert for Twinings tea and also featured on The X Factor.

Hints & Tips: This song should be kept nice and light. Make sure the wrist of your left hand isn't too rigid, and use a 'rolling' motion for arpeggio style accompaniment starting in bar 9 if you're finding the stretch too big.



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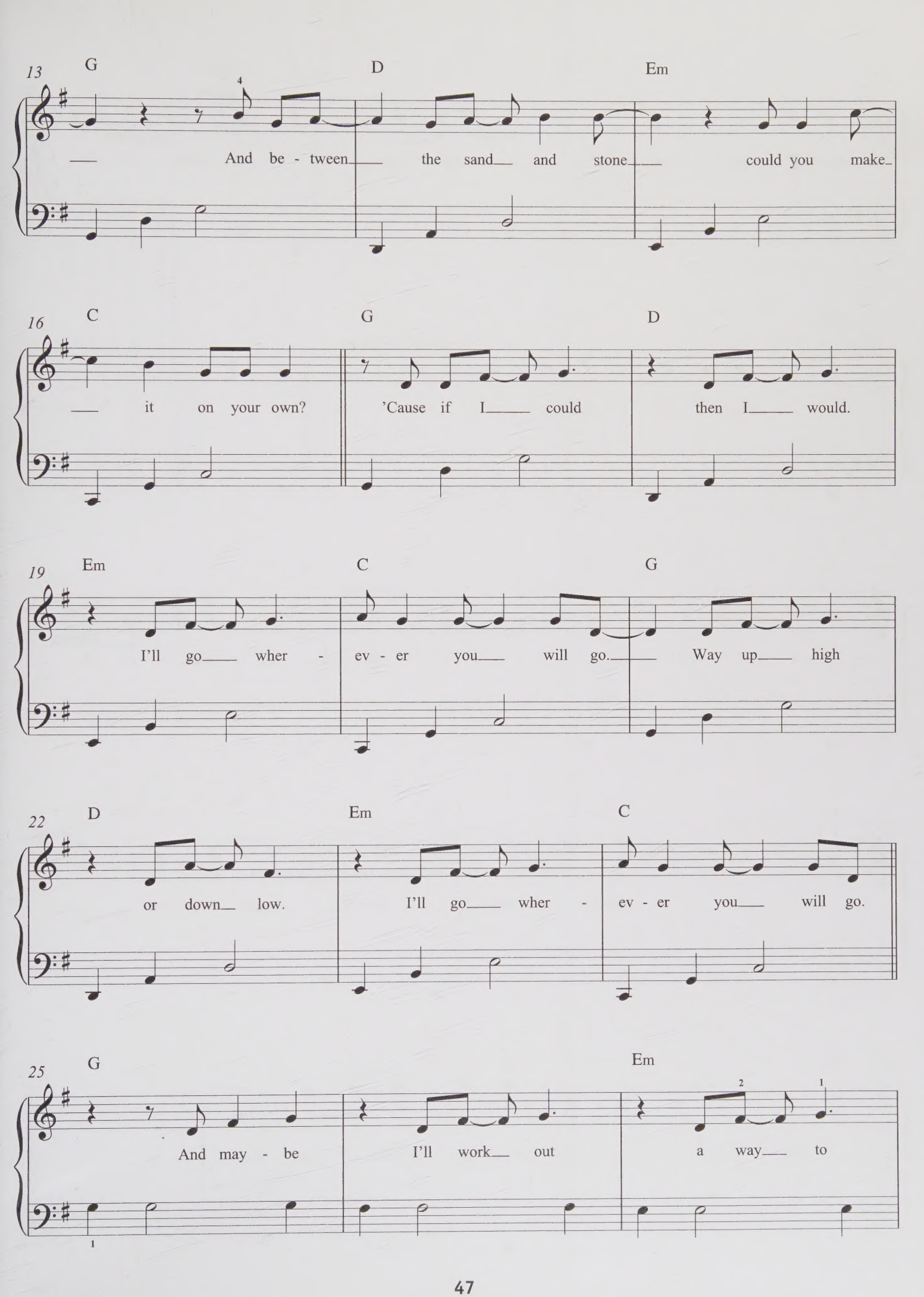
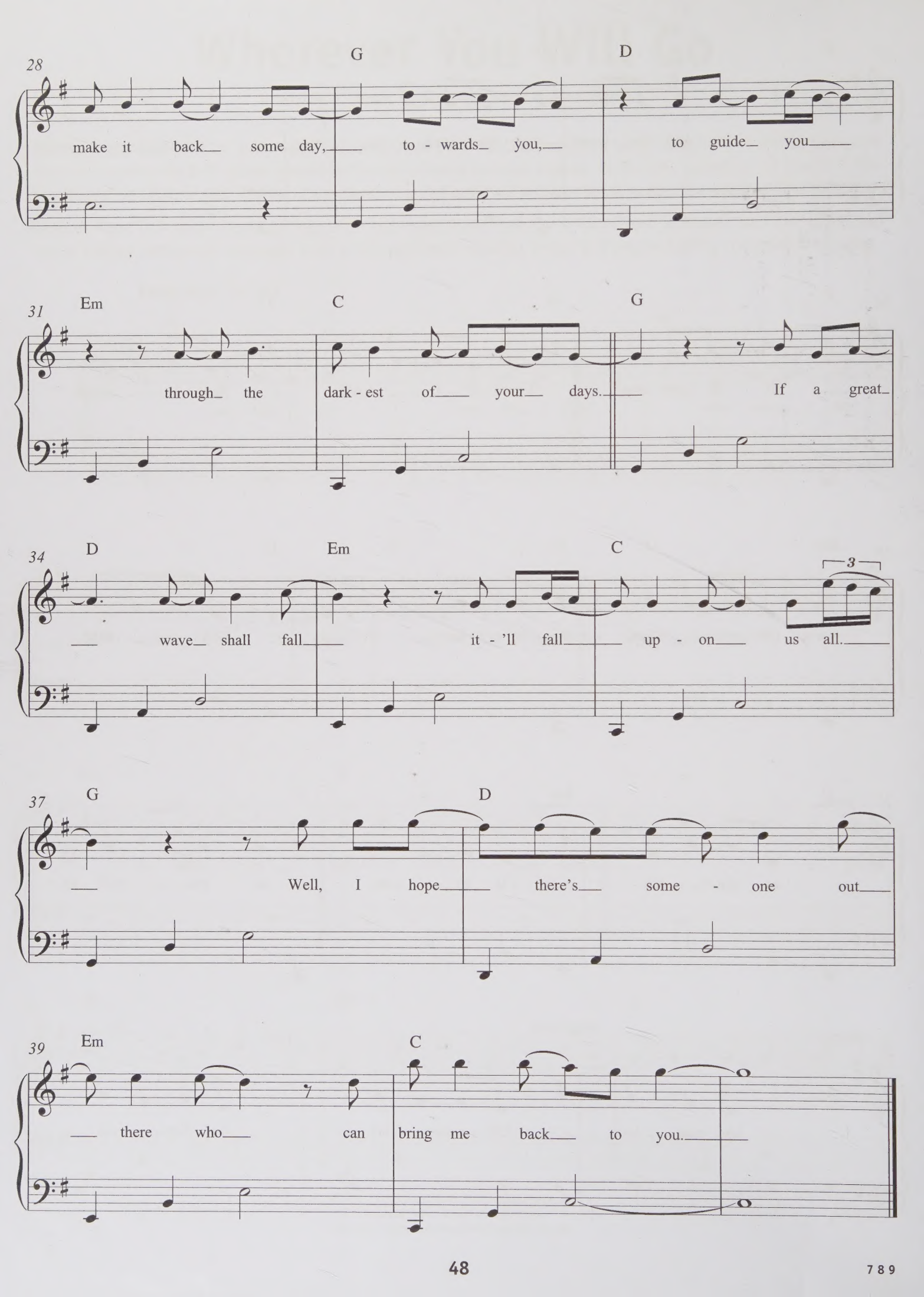

13
G
D
Em
And be - tween the sand and stone could you make
16
C
G
D
it on your own?
'Cause if I could
then I would.
19
Em
C
G
I'll go wher - ev - er you will go.
Way up high
22
D
Em
C
or down low.
I'll go wher - ev - er you will go.
25
G
Em
And may - be
I'll work out
a way to


28
G
D
make it back some day, to - wards you, to guide you
31
Em
C
G
through the dark - est of your days. If a great
34
D
Em
C
3
wave shall fall it - 'll fall up - on us all.
37
G
D
Well, I hope there's some - one out
39
Em
C
there who can bring me back to you.

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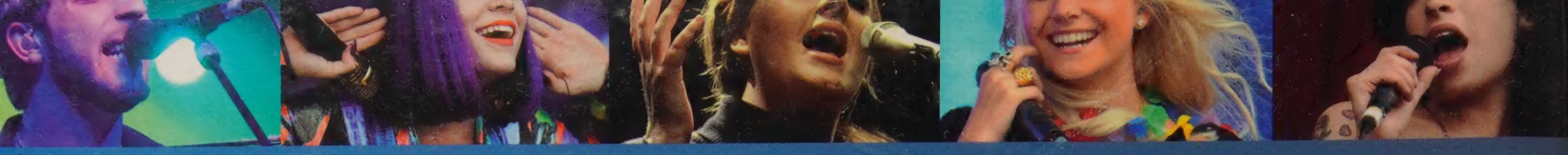

EASY PIANO ARRANGEMENTS OF 19 CHART-TOPPING SONGS

COMPLETE WITH SONG BACKGROUND NOTES, AND PLAYING HINTS AND TIPS

THE A TEAM ED SHEERAN
ALL ABOUT TONIGHT PIXIE LOTT
DANCE WITH ME TONIGHT OLLY MURS
HEAVEN EMELI SANDÉ
I WON'T LET YOU GO JAMES MORRISON
JAR OF HEARTS CHRISTINA PERRI
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